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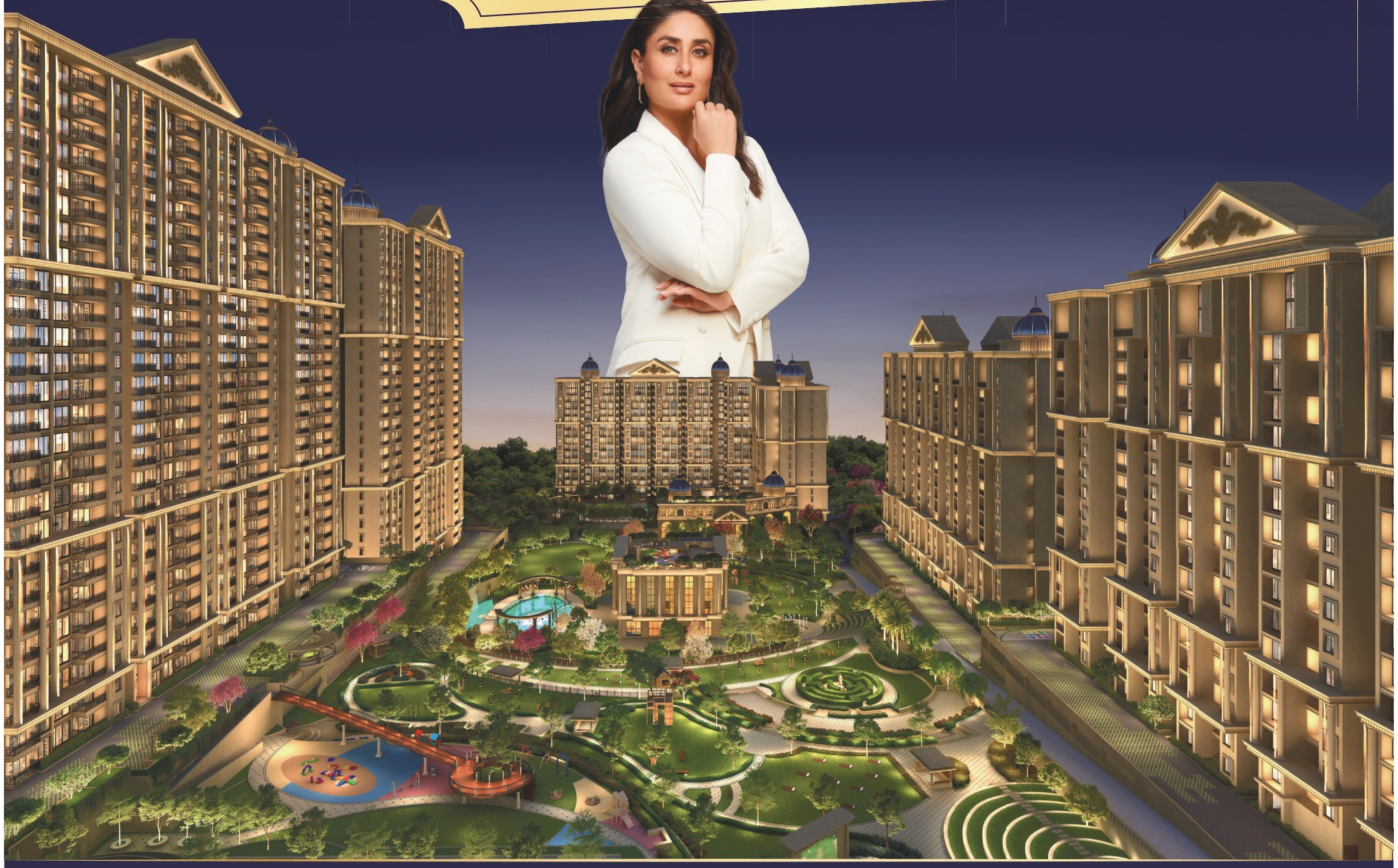

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CABINET EXPANSION

Nitish's son among 32 new Ministers in Bihar

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RECOVERY ROAD

One year since Sindoor, two schools bear the scars

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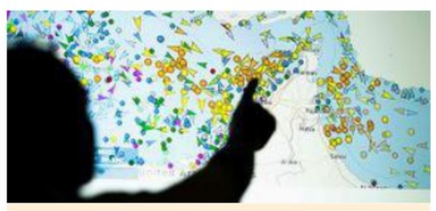

STRAIT TUSSLE

Iran denies ship attack amid Trump's warning

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Do abortion laws need a revamp?

Should the law be amended for minor victims of rape?

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THE ARCHITECT

Marsh sizzles in LSG's win against RCB

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Suvendu aide killing: fake numbers used for vehicles

Shrabana Chatterjee
KOLKATA

Vehicles with fake number plates were used to target and kill Chandranath Rath, personal assistant to Suvendu Adhikari, the outgoing Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal Assembly, late on Wednesday night, according to the West Bengal police. A Special Investigation Team has been formed to probe the attack, and forensic experts have visited the scene of the crime in North 24 Parganas district.

Alleging that Rath was killed in a targeted attack by hired assassins who had recced the location for a week before carrying out the murder, Mr. Adhikari, who visited the aide's family on Thursday, called for the death penalty for the killers.

FULL REPORT ON » PAGE 18

Cong. high command to choose Kerala CM

AICC observers Ajay Maken and Mukul Wasnik arrive for the meeting with Congress MLAs-elect in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday. PTI

S.R. Praveen
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

MLAs-elect of the Congress in Kerala, who met in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday, passed a resolution authorising the party high command to choose the next Chief Minister, even as the three leaders in contention were involved in hectic parleys to shore up support.

While All India Congress Committee (AICC) observers Mukul Wasnik and Ajay Maken, and the party's Kerala in-charge Deepa Dasmunsi, held one-on-one meetings with the 63 MLAs-elect, a majority of the United Democratic Front (UDF) allies are understood to be favouring outgoing Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan.

The report of the meetings will be handed over to the high command and a decision will be arrived at soon, the observers told media after the meeting.

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PINARAYI'S PROMISE » PAGE 13

DMK explores backing rival AIADMK in hung T.N. House

Left parties and Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi hold the key in government formation; Governor tells Vijay that his TVK, the single largest party with 107 MLAs-elect, has not established a majority

B. Kolappan
CHENNAI

The post-election political climate in Tamil Nadu turned upside down on Thursday after the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) leadership began toying with the idea of extending outside support to its arch-rival, the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) – a prospect unthinkable even a few days ago.

Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar invited Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) president C. Joseph Vijay on Thursday and "explained that the requisite majority support in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, essential for forming the government, has not been established", the Lok Bhavan said.

Outgoing Tamil Nadu CM M.K. Stalin (third from right) at a meet of the DMK's MLAs-elect in Chennai on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A meeting of the MLAs-elect of the DMK here empowered party president and outgoing Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to take an appropriate decision in light of the fractured electoral verdict, which failed to give any single party a majority.

"As the State is not ready for another election, our objective is to ensure a stable government. At the same time, we are under compulsion to prevent communal forces that could disturb Dravidian ideals from gaining a foothold," a resolution adopted at the meeting said.

While Mr. Vijay and senior party leaders have reached out to the DMK's allies – the Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and the Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK) with two seats each – Mr. Stalin is learnt to have broached the idea of backing an AIADMK-led government with these three parties.

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Priority for formation of a stable govt.

NEW DELHI
The Tamil Nadu Governor's insistence that the TVK must prove majority is based on the principle that a Governor's priority is formation of a stable government, lest there is a breakdown of constitutional machinery. » PAGE 17

NEARBY

'Demographic imbalance needs more attention'

MYSURU
Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat said demographic imbalance in India needs more urgent attention than population control. » PAGE 12

LPG shortage stalls wedding bookings

BENGALURU
The ₹993 hike in commercial LPG cylinder prices, coupled with a continuing supply shortage, has hit weddings and large-scale functions as caterers are forced to buy cylinders in the open market for over ₹8,000. » PAGE 7

METROPLUS » PAGE 11

Karnataka set to approach SC to implement MGNREGA for this year

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a decision that could lead to another confrontation with the Centre, the Karnataka government on Thursday decided to approach the Supreme Court seeking permission to formulate and implement an action plan for this year under the now-defunct Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREGA) Act, 2005.

The Centre has replaced MGNREGA with Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Act, 2025.

"We are already in May, and the Union government is yet to notify the new Act, frame rules and regulations. No alternative has been provided by the Centre. They have given advisory about water storage and availability due to climate change, and yet, the Act has not been notified. Hence, we will approach the court immediately," Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told press-persons during the post-Cabinet briefing here on Thursday.

Pending works

Mr. Patil also said that the Centre had asked States to continue and complete the pending works under the MGNREGA though money had not been allocated.

When the new law was being formulated, the Centre should have consulted the State government, he added.

Mr. Patil said that while the State government would seek permission from the court to formulate an action plan for this year, the government would also point out at the "curtailing of the Constitutional right" under the new Act.

"We will question trampling of the Constitutional right of the State government to implement Right to Livelihood for the benefit of poor farmers, farm labourers and workers," he said.

When asked if the State government was expecting financial support from the Centre under the MGNREGA, Mr. Patil said, "When the Centre has asked us to continue with unfinished work under MGNREGA, it means that the Act is still in practice. It means whatever was part of the Act will continue."

Resolution

The Minister pointed out that the Congress government had tried to bring political pressure on the Centre against the new Act that replaced the MGNREGA by passing a resolution and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge had also met Union government on this issue, the Minister added.

Push for count

Advertisements for Census 2027 displayed on vans in New Delhi on Thursday. More than 92 lakh households across 23 States and Union Territories have used the self-enumeration facility during the ongoing first phase of the exercise so far, officials said on Thursday. ANI

State's 'Adopt a Monument' sees muted response

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

Three years after the launch of Karnataka's 'Namma Smaraka – Adopt a Monument' initiative, the programme has struggled to meet its stated objective, with only 23 of the over 800 State-protected monuments drawing interest so far. Of these, approval is still pending for five sites while 18 sites have been adopted.

Poor publicity, limited connectivity to several heritage locations, lack of detailed development plans, and the absence of stronger government outreach, have been pointed as some of the main reasons for the slow uptake by the stakeholders.

The initiative was launched in September 2022 and moved online in 2023 to simplify applications and reduce paperwork. It was introduced as part of the government's effort to encourage private participation and divert CSR funds towards maintaining monuments, and to showcase the State as not just 'One State, Many Worlds' but 'One State, Many Monuments'. Karnataka has more than 20,000 heritage structures, and 844 of these sites are currently under the State government.

Among the monuments already taken up under the programme are Venkatappa Art Gallery in Bengaluru, Yadgir Fort, Taj Bawdi in Vijayapura and Basavakalyan Fort in Bidar, among other sites.

Low publicity

A company that has been using its CSR funds for maintaining lakes and parks in Bengaluru said it had not considered monument adoption because many heritage sites attract limited footfall and offer little public visibility. The representative said poor connectivity to monuments in several districts and low public awareness reduce the appeal for private organisations.

Another organisation that has adopted a monument said visibility and public engagement are key factors for most private organisations. "While there is a desperate need for private participation in heritage maintenance, companies look for outcomes such as increased visitor numbers or stronger public recognition after investment as the annual maintenance costs for each site exceed ₹5 lakh," the representative said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 6

Adopted monuments

- Nalknad Palace, Kakkabe
- Venkatappa Art Gallery, Bengaluru
- Shri Yoganandeeswara Swami Temple, Nandi Hills
- Kalyani, Nandi Hill Station
- Rangasthala, Chickballapur
- Sri Venkataramana Temple, Alambagiri
- Sri Bheemeshwara/ Nakuleshwar Temple, Kaiwara
- Fort Wall and Entrance Gate at Nandi Hills
- Taj Bawdi, Vijayapura
- Gagan Mahal, Vijayapura
- Aravattu Kambada Gudi, Nagavi
- Nandi Bhavi Temple complex, Chittapur taluk
- Mallikarjuna Temple complex, Chittapur taluk
- Mullayyanagiri, Chittapur taluk
- Basavakalyana Fort, Bidar
- Yadgir Fort
- Manyakheta/Malkhed Fort, Sedam taluk
- Sri Ramadevaru Seetha Devi Temple, Kudlur, Channapatna

The list includes only adopted monuments and not those awaiting approval.

City records second highest crime rate against women

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka recorded a decline in overall crime in 2024 after a spike the previous year, but the latest "Crime in India - 2024" report by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has flagged a sharp rise in crimes against senior citizens, raising concerns over the safety of the elderly population in the State.

According to the report, Karnataka registered 1,98,331 cognisable crimes under IPC/BNS and Special and Local Laws in 2024, down by 7.4% from 2,14,234 cases in 2023. The State had recorded 1,80,742 cases in 2022.

The most alarming trend was the steep rise in crimes against senior citizens. Karnataka recorded 4,247 such cases in 2024, compared to 1,840 cases in 2023 and 1,583 in 2022 – marking an increase of nearly 130% year-on-year.

The report showed a marginal rise in crimes against Scheduled Castes in the State, with 2,016 cases registered in 2024 compared to 1,923 in 2023.

In Bengaluru, the crime profile reflected the challenges of policing a rapidly expanding metropolitan city and growing industrial and technology hub. The city registered 34,715 IPC/BNS crimes in 2024.

Bengaluru recorded 9,229 theft cases in 2024, making it the third-highest metro in the country after Delhi and Mumbai. It also reported 176 murder cases in 2024, placing it second among all metropolitan cities after Delhi. However, the figures showed a decline from 206 murder cases reported in 2023.

Economic offences, including fraud and cheating, stood at 3,477 cases in Bengaluru in 2024, making it the third-highest among Indian metros after Mumbai and Delhi. The number, however, declined from 3,858 cases reported in 2023.

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M BG-BGE

From the doldrums to the top, Sunrisers' stunning rise

The 2016 champion, which began IPL 2026 with three defeats in its first four outings, has embarked on a fabulous run that has netted them six victories on the bounce; Nitish's all-round efficacy is a much under-rated but massive contribution to the franchise's impressive performances

NAGARA GOPAL

R. Kaushik

A disappointing first fortnight, a spectacular three and a half weeks thereafter. It's been a stunning turnaround for Sunrisers Hyderabad, the 2016 champions who began IPL 2026 with three defeats in their first four outings, but have since embarked on a fabulous run that has netted them six victories on the bounce.

What makes their revival even more special is the fact that they have seamlessly embraced a change in captaincy too, with Pat Cummins effortlessly slipping back into the role he has performed with aplomb in the past. Well before the start of this season, it was evident that Australia's Test and One-Day International skipper would miss the early part of IPL 2026, recovering as he was from a back injury that restricted his participation to just one Ashes Test in the Australian summer and forced him out of the T20 World Cup, where Australia crashed out in the first round following defeats to Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka.

Kishan's second coming

With Cummins guaranteed to miss the initial few matches of the tournament, the Sunrisers management bestowed the captaincy on Ishan Kishan, a late entrant to the franchise but clearly establishing his leadership credentials in no uncertain terms. His own career at a crossroads until a year and a half back, Kishan took charge of the Jharkhand team in the domestic season gone by. Not only that, he masterminded a wonderful run in the 20-over Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy that culminated in his state emerging triumphant in the tournament for the first time. The icing on the cake? A century by Kishan himself in the title round.

Such were the numbers he stacked up during that tournament that India were compelled to turn to him just before they announced their squad for the defence of the T20 World Cup, won in Bridgetown under Rohit Sharma in June 2024. Finally acknowledging their mistake in trying to resurrect Shubman Gill's patchy T20I career, Ajit Agarkar's selection panel decided it was time to part ways, even if only temporarily, with India's Test and ODI leader.

Out went the call to Kishan, the final evidence that he was deemed to have served penance for disobeying the BCCI diktat and refraining from playing domestic cricket in the early part of 2024. Kishan was stripped of his central contract for his temerity; that he was now being considered as one of the key batting cogs at the World Cup was a shot in the arm for the little wicketkeeper-batter, who played his part in India becoming the first team to win the World Cup in the shortest format on home turf.

SRH placing faith in Kishan was an extension of the BCCI recognising his worth, though Kishan's captaincy career with his new franchise got off to a rocky start. Despite a whirlwind 80 in the tournament opener before his innings was halted in full flow by a screamer from Phil Salt, Kishan found himself on the losing side as defending champions Royal Challengers Bengaluru hunted down a target of 202 with consummate ease. Victory in the next outing, at home against Kolkata Knight Riders, was cancelled out by consecutive losses to Lucknow Super Giants and Punjab Kings as Hyderabad found themselves in the doldrums, their power-packed batting line-up let down by the munificence of the bowling in which old warhorses Harshal Patel and Jaydev Unadkat no longer posed the same threat with their variations as they had in the past.

Debutants' dazzle

With their campaign hanging from the slenderest of threads and Cummins still some distance away from returning to match play, Hyderabad worked the changes, investing in uncapped Indian quicks. At the very first time of asking, they struck gold with debutants Praful Hinge and Sakib Hussain running amok against the formidable Rajasthan Royals top order at their Uppal base in Hyderabad. Hinge became the first bowler in the history of the competition to take three wickets in the first over of a match - needless to say, also the first debutant to pick up three scalps in his very first over - on his way to a four-wicket haul. Sakib followed suit with four wickets of his own as Rajasthan were swept aside by a mile, kickstarting a run that has made the Hyderabad outfit one of the frontrunners for a playoff berth.

Hinge's three first-over victims were Vaibhav Suryavanshi, the 15-year-old prodigy who courted a golden duck, Dhruv Jurel and South African Lhuan-dre Pretorius. Sakib had Jaiswal caught at the deep third-man fence in the second over as both unheralded quicks justified the faith of the leadership group. It was just the tonic the southern team required to rejuvenate a flagging run; with the rest of the bowling group led by Sri Lankan Eshan Malinga holding its own, left-arm wrist-spinner Shivang Kumar finding life in the fast lane to his liking and Cummins showing that he was never really away despite missing the first eight matches, Hyderabad have ticked over like a well-oiled machine.

It will be no exaggeration to place the credit for the dramatic upswing in fortunes at the feet of the bowling group, in which Nitish Kumar too has been a vital contributor. In the off-season, Nitish worked assiduously on his bowling, working on getting his pace up and embracing greater consistency in his sessions with Steffan Jones, a specialised pace coach. The results are there for all to see; the all-rounder has been used in various capacities, including as a new-ball operator, and he has responded to every challenge with a great heart and no mean exhibitions of skill. Hyderabad have become primarily a pace-heavy bowling unit, not unlike many others in the IPL for whom spin has become a secondary suit, and with all the parts ticking over nicely, they are reaping handsome rewards as the competition hurtles towards the business end.

Fearsome batting unit

If hardly a word has been written so far about the munificence of batting riches that Hyderabad boast, it's almost a back-handed compliment because so many have come to take their batting might almost for granted. In Abhishek Sharma and Travis Head --- TraviShek, as they are called - they have arguably the most destructive opening pair of the tournament. They were the first to buck the oft-touted significance of having a left-right combination at the top. The two left-handers complement each other superbly, instinctively knowing when the other is in the mood and backing off just that little without trying to compete with their partner for impact and effort. Rather than competing with one another, they support and feed off each other. Abhishek is an acknowledged slayer of spin without being too far behind when it comes to taking on pace, while Head is a marauder at the top of the order, though he hasn't been at his absolute best this season.

In recent games, the Australian too is showing signs of rediscovering top touch, which isn't the best news for the other teams in the fray that lie ahead of Hyderabad. Following this destructive left-handed tandem is a third left-hander in Kishan; between them, this trio has scored more than 1,200 runs already this season, with Head's not unimpressive 174.39 the least of the three strike-rates. Abhishek, who has 43 fours and 36 sixes, is striking at 210.17 and Kishan at 186.75; there is no more dangerous top-three in the tournament, and it is showing no signs of slowing up.

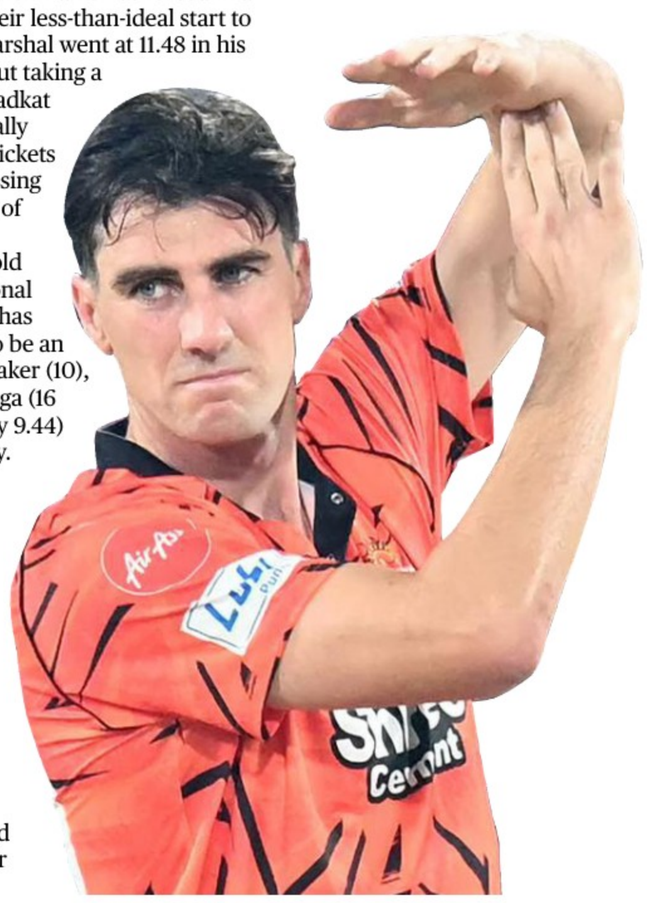
Add the wonderfully strokeful South African Heinrich Klaasen to the mix, and we get a line-up better than the best in the business. You'd think someone with 475 runs from 11 innings (Abhishek) would be on top of the run-making charts, at least as far as the franchise is concerned, but you'd be wrong in this instance. Klaasen, the gifted right-hander whose season began somewhat scratchily but who is now striking the ball as well as anyone else, has an astonishing 494 runs at a team-high average of 54.88. He is *only* striking at 157.32, which is quite a handful in normal course, but that relatively low strike-rate compared to the three batters above him is offset by his supreme consistency, which has already netted him five half-centuries.

Hyderabad have also been able to eke out meaningful and impactful runs down the order from Nitish, who has scored his 222 runs at a strike-rate of 166.91. His all-round efficacy is a much under-rated but massive contribution to his franchise going to the top of the table after its seventh win from 11 games - he also has seven wickets against his name - and singles out Hyderabad as the team to look out for, and beat, as the race for a place in the top four intensifies, especially after a hat-trick of losses for once high-flying Punjab Kings, who suddenly have embarked on a downward spiral.

Opinion has remained divided on the role of momentum in the 20-over game. Many feel that once a team gets on a roll, it becomes difficult to stop, a view endorsed by those who are on a winning streak. Others, like Punjab who go from one defeat to another, feel that momentum is overrated and that it all boils down to how one executes their skills on a given day. There is no definitive answer on which opinion is more correct than the other. If you ask Hyderabad, one suspects, they will talk in generic terms, talking about taking it one match at a time, about not getting carried away by past results and insisting that past victories will have no bearing on future outcomes. That's perhaps a sanguine way of looking at things.

Especially with the shake-up of their bowling attack, Hyderabad have showcased the courage and bravery required to be successful in this format. Some might say their hand was forced in a way, following their less-than-ideal start to the campaign. Harshal went at 11.48 in his four bowls without taking a wicket, while Unadkat was only marginally better, his four wickets somewhat redressing an economy rate of 10.90. Hinge has blown hot and cold since his sensational debut, but Sakib has proved himself to be an effective wicket-taker (10), backing up Malinga (16 wickets, economy 9.44) quite wonderfully.

They say that batters win matches and bowlers win tournaments. Hyderabad have both disciplines ticking over beautifully. Who knows, maybe this is the year Cummins (and Kishan) emulate David Warner and take them to their second crown.



THE GIST

- What makes SRH's revival even more special is the fact that they have seamlessly embraced a change in captaincy too, with Pat Cummins effortlessly slipping back into the role he has performed with aplomb in the past
- The Sunrisers placing faith in Ishan Kishan was an extension of the BCCI recognising his worth, though the captaincy career with his new franchise got off to a rocky start
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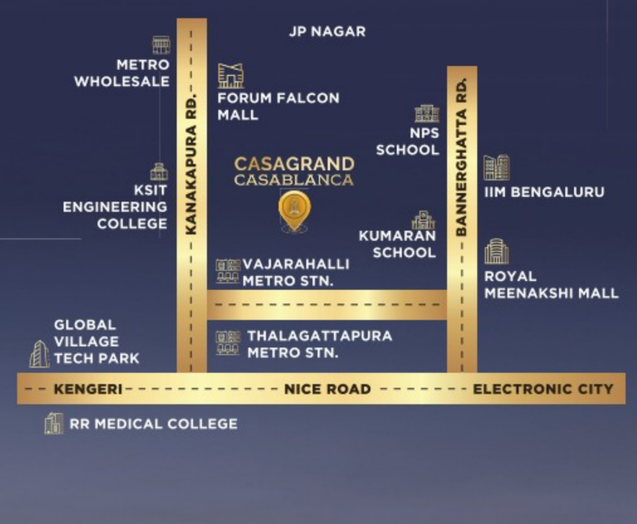

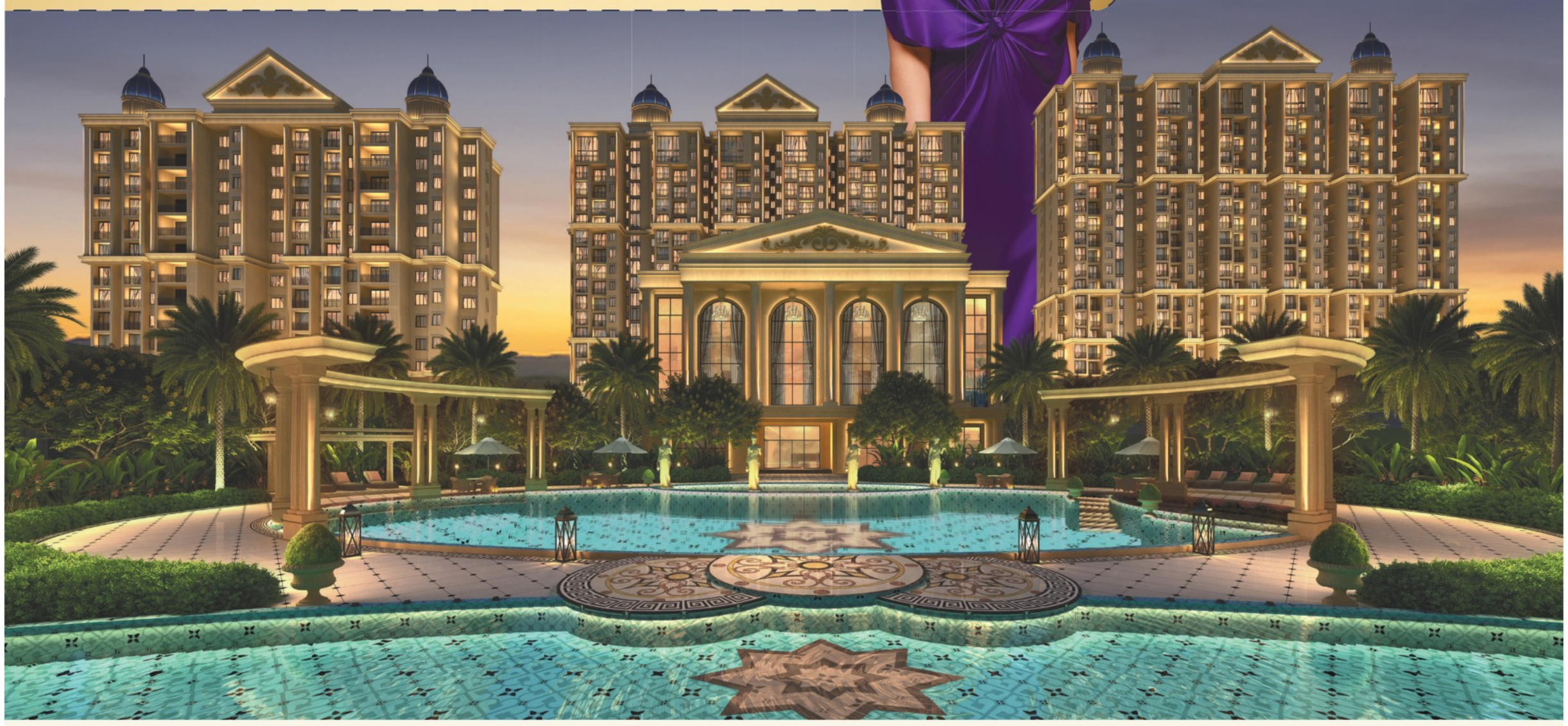

WHY CASAGRAND?

Top 7 Ranked in India	**Top 2** Ranked in South India	**No.1** Ranked in Chennai for last 8 years*	**22+ years** of Trust & Legacy	**7000+** Homes sold in FY '24 – 25	**6 Cities** Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Pune, Coimbatore & Dubai
2 months Guaranteed rental	**6 months** Guaranteed resale	**7 years** Warranty	**10 years** Maintenance by us	**2000+** Quality checks	**On-time** Delivery of projects

CREDAI
EXCLUSIVE SITE VISIT AVAILABLE.
VISIT MODEL HOUSE AT SITE.
95139 00500

SCAN TO EXPERIENCE THE BLOCKBUSTER LIFE

CASAGRAND building aspirations

*Based on CBRE report 2024

Casagrand Premier Builder Limited is proposing, subject to receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offer of its equity shares and has filed a draft red herring prospectus ("**DRHP**") with the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("**SEBI**"). The DRHP is available on the website of our Company, at www.casagrand.co.in, the SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in as well as on the websites of the book running lead managers Motilal Oswal Investment Advisors Limited and DAM Capital Advisors Limited at www.motilaloswalgroup.com and www.damcapital.in respectively, and the websites of the stock exchange(s) at www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.com, respectively. Any potential investor should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to such risk, see "Risk Factors" of the RHP, when available. Potential investors should not rely on the DRHP filed with SEBI for making any investment decision.

The Equity Shares have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("U.S. Securities Act") or any other applicable law of the United States and, unless so registered, may not be offered or sold within the United States except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. Accordingly, the Equity Shares are being offered and sold outside the United States in "offshore transactions" as defined in and in compliance with Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act and the applicable laws of the jurisdiction where those offers and sales occur.

J BG-BGE

Desilting being taken up at Ulsoor Lake in Bengaluru on Thursday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Activists unhappy with desilting of Ulsoor Lake

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

As Ulsoor Lake has been drained and the desilting process has been taken up after more than three decades, lake conservation activists have taken objection to the lakebed being desilted by only 0.6 metres, arguing that it is insufficient.

The rejuvenation of the 106-acre lake, one of the few water bodies in Central Bengaluru, is being taken up at a total cost of ₹107 crore.

"Ideally, there should have been a geotechnical study to determine the amount of silt sedimentation accumulated and depending on that, the extent of desilting must have been determined," said V. Ramprasad of Friends of Lakes.

A senior official from the Bengaluru Central City Corporation conceded that they had proposed desilting the lake by 1 metre in the Detailed Project Report (DPR), but ended up deciding to desilt only 0.6 metres due to budget constraints and the cost of transporting the excavated silt. The officer said the DPR approved by the Karnataka Tank Conservation and Development Authority proposes desilting by only 0.6 metres.

However, another officer said that the extent of desilting was not uniform and that it varied depending on the area of the lake, adding that the average was 0.6 metres, but it could be deeper in some parts.

R. Rajagopalan, convenor, Bengaluru Coalition, a civic organisation, has lodged a complaint with the Karnataka Lokayukta over alleged irregularities in the rejuvenation of Ulsoor Lake. He said the budget constraints for extensively desilting the lake were misleading. "Almost 80% of the funds allocated for the project are being used for ornamental projects like an expanded walking track, which has encroached into the lake. This is illegal. The civic body must first prioritise restoring the primary function of the lake," he argued.

Mr. Ramprasad said lakes have primarily become a tool for flood mitigation, which is one of the objectives of rejuvenating and desilting the lake. "But if it is not desilted sufficiently, the water retention capacity of the lake will not be utilised fully, and this will render the whole exercise inadequate," he argued.

Silt dumped in landfill

The silt being removed from the lake bed is usually considered very fertile soil, and there is a high demand for it among farmers. Many farmers had taken silt from Varthur Lake when it was desilted a few years ago. However, BCCC officials said the silt being removed from the Ulsoor Lake bed was being dumped in an empty quarry pit used as a landfill in Mittanagahalli.

"There is a lot of plastic waste in the silt. If we were to give it to farmers, the plastic would have to be removed from the silt, which would again add to the costs," the officer said.

COMED-K entrance test tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Consortium of Medical, Engineering, and Dental Colleges of Karnataka (COMED-K) entrance test will be held on May 9 for admissions to Under Graduate (UG) courses in over 150 private engineering colleges in Karnataka and pan-India member universities.

Including 43,069 candidates from Karnataka, a total of 1,30,620 candidates across India have registered for this test.

COMED-K UGET will be held across 28 States/Union Territories, 171 cities, and 303 test centres in two sessions. The first session will be held between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m., whereas the second session will be held between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Residents rescue woman from knife attack by husband

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A woman narrowly escaped an assault after alert residents intervened when her husband allegedly tried to attack her with a knife in Dasanapura on Thursday. The couple, Sonali and Sanjay, are natives of Bihar who had relocated to Bengaluru. Residents alleged that Sanjay frequently subjected Sonali to physical abuse. On Thursday, the couple got into an argument on the street when Sanjay reportedly held a knife near Sonali's neck. Passersby overpowered Sanjay, and rescued the woman. They later handed him over to the Madanayakanahalli police.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase Property **No.64** bearing BBMP E-Aasthi Katha **EPID No.2013799944** measuring East to West 15 ft and North to South 26.74 ft, in all measuring 401 Sq.ft, Property No.64/1 bearing BBMP E-Aasthi Katha EPID No.2013799198 measuring East to West 16 ft and North to South 26.75 ft, in all measuring **428 Sq.ft,** Property **No.64/2** bearing BBMP E-Aasthi Katha **EPID No.2013799381** measuring East to West 15 ft and North to South 26.75 ft, in all measuring 401 Sq.ft, total Property measuring East to West 46 ft and North to South 26.75 ft, total Site area **1230 Sq.ft,** with building, Ward No.89-Jogupalya, situated at **Jogupalya Main Road, Halasur, Bangalore,** bounded on :

East by : Corporation School;
West by : Nandanavanam 'D' Street;
North by : House belongs to Gubbammal;
South by : 'G' Street, Jogupalya Main Road

from its owners **Ms.Nandini wife of Mr.Arasegowda, and daughter of Mrs.Lakshmidevi and Mr.Kodandarama, Mr.Bhaskar son of Mr.Krishnamurthy R and his wife Mrs.Nagamma and Mr.Raghavendra son of Mr. Krishnamurthy R.**

K. V. Narendra & Associates,
Advocates and Legal Consultants,
No.557, 2nd Floor, 9th A Main, Indiranagar, Bangalore - 560038.
Ph: 9945109229

Rail Wheel Plant/Bela
(Distt.: Saran), Bihar-841221

E-Open Tender Notice No.:- S/RWP/ Advt./E/2026-27/03, Dated : 06.05.2026. Principal Chief Materials Manager /Rail Wheel Plant, Bela for and on behalf of the President of India invites online "e-Open Tender", through Indian Railways E-Procurement Website www.ireps.gov.in, for supply of following Stores item at RWP/Bela. The closing time of all tenders is 14.00 hrs. **SN. 1. Tender No. :** 01261137A, **Short Description of item :** Cast Iron Slag Pot, **Quantity :** 12 Nos., **Date of tender opening/Closing :** 05/06/2026 at 14.00 Hrs.

1. Website address, on which full tender details can be seen and downloaded from, is **www.ireps.gov.in 2.** The prospective firms/bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with the above website for updates including **Addendum/ Corrigendum/ Cancellation** with respect to the above tender. However, this information will also be invariably published in the all concerned newspapers.

PCMM, Rail Wheel Plant, Bela
RWP/CPRO/Advt./2026-27/15

JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)
Regd. Office:- Engineering Building, HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi–834004.
fax # 0651-2400483 e-mail : cesp.jseb@rediffmail.com/gmsp.jbvnl@rediffmail.com
1st Time Extension Notice

Last date of uploading of bid documents, last date of online submission of tender fee and bid opening date of following tender notice no. is hereby extended as below :-

Sl. No.	NITs No.	Extended online bid uploading/ submission end date	Last date of online submission of tender fee and EMD	Technical bid opening date and time
1	15/PR/JBVNL/2026-27 33/11 KV, 5 MVA Cu. Wd. CRGO Core Power Transformer	12.05.2026 upto 18:00 Hrs	12.05.2026 upto 18:00 Hrs.	13.05.2026 upto 18:00 Hrs.
2	16/PR/JBVNL/2026-27 33/11 KV, 10 MVA Cu. Wd. CRGO Core Power Transformer	12.05.2026 upto 18:00 Hrs	12.05.2026 upto 18:00 Hrs.	13.05.2026 upto 18:00 Hrs.

Further details and corrigendum against the above NITs can be seen on website http:jharkhandtenders.gov.in and may be contacted on Mobile No. 09431135523 / 9430348596/ NIC helpline No. 0651-2400178. Only online payment mode of submission of Tender Fee & EMD will be accepted.

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपया अपनी शिकयतोंको टॉल फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज करायें।

PR No. 377104
PR 379245 Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd(26-27)D

Sd/-
Dy. General Manager Purchase

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP)
Plot No.12&13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-58. Ph: 080-28094185, 4144, 4541, Fax: 080-28094180

CORRIGENDUM-I DT: 07.05.2026

On behalf of President of India, **Sealed Item rate E-Tender** is invited online from Contractors of appropriate class for the following work in NIT by **Group Head,** ISTRAC, ISRO, Peenya, Bengaluru-58 (Ph:080-2809 4541, 4185, 4144).

NIT No.	**ISTRAC/CMG/E/CON/E-TN-08/ 2026-2027 dated: 15.04.2026**
Name of work	**Construction of Automated Antenna Measurement Facility at SCC Campus, ISTRAC, Bengaluru. (Electrical works-Internal Electrification, Telephone, LAN, Smoke Detection, Earthing and Lightning Protection System)**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 29.52 Lakhs**
Tender Document details	**E-Tender**
Period of Completion	**Six (06) months**
Period during which tender documents can be downloaded	From 16.00 hrs. on 16.04.2026 to 02.05.2026 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 23.05.2026 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Bid clarifications	From 11.00 hrs. on 17.04.2026 to 03.05.2026 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 24.05.2026 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Last date of reply to Bid clarification	04.05.2026 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 25.05.2026 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Last date & time for receipt of tenders	05.05.2026 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 26.05.2026 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Due date & time of opening of tenders	07.05.2026 after 11.00 hrs. **Extended up to 29.05.2026 after 11.00 Hrs.**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 59,040.00**

For eligibility criteria and other details, interested tenderers may please refer the detailed bilingual (Hindi-English) Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) on the website: **https://isro.gov.in/Tenders.html** and tender fee view at **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head-CMG

FORM NO. 14
[See Regulation 33(2)]
By Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BENGALURU
No. 4, Residency Road, LIC Jeevan Mangal Building, Hayes Road, Bengaluru - 560 025.

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC 11663 / 2017 **20/01/2021**

Punjab National Bank
Bangalore Cantonment Branch,
Davidoss Building, 143, Commercial Street, Bengaluru - 560 001.
... Certificate Holder

Versus

M/s. ZEE ENTERPRISES AND OTHERS

To,
1. M/s. Zee Enterprises, A Partnership Firm,
No. 21, Mustaq Building, 3rd Cross, 3rd Main Road, Kalasipalyam New Extension, Bengaluru - 560 002.
2. Sri. Rahul Garg S/o. Sri. Kumar Shyam Garg.
Flat No. F-722, Sena Vihar, Kammanahalli Main Road, Bengaluru - 560 043.
3. Sri. Mohammed Habib S/o. Sri. Mohammed Ismail
No. 15, Dheer Singh Lane, 6th 'A' Cross, Doddamavalli, Lal Bagh Fort Road, Bengaluru - 560 004.
4. Sri. Nasir Ahmed S/o. Sri. K.M. Nissar Ahmed,
No. 15, Dheer Singh Lane, 6th 'A' Cross, Doddamavalli, Lal Bagh Fort Road, Bengaluru - 560 004.
... Certified Debtor

This is notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bengaluru (DRT-1), in OA/730/2015 an amount of **Rs. 1,18,36,300.00 (Rupees One Crore Eighteen Lakhs Thirty Six Thousands Three Hundred Only)** along with pendentelite and future interest and costs till realization.

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.

3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.

4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on **30-03-2021 at 10.30 a.m.** for further proceedings.

5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay :

(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the Certificate / Execution proceedings.

(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date **20-01-2021.**

(Rajasekharan .R)
Recovery Officer - I
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore (DRT 1)

Note : Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below.

: "Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debts Recovery Officer, nor shall any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.

(2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment."

भारतीय खेल प्राधिकरण
SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
खेल विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS
(An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports)
(युवा कार्यक्रम और खेल मंत्रालय के तहत एक स्वायत निकाय)
(Human Resources Division -II)
(मानव संसाधन प्रभाग -II)
ईस्ट गेट संख्या-10,जे. एन. स्टेडियम परिसर, लोधी रोड, सीजीओ कॉम्प्लेक्स, नई दिल्ली - 110003
East Gate. No. 10, J N Stadium Complex, Lodhi Road, CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003

File No.:01-04001(03)/2/2025-HO- Personnel Division / 253 Date: 01-04-2026

CORRIGENDUM

Sub:APPOINTMENT TO THE POST OF JUNIOR ENGINEER ON DEPUTATION BASIS IN SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA REG EXTENSION IN CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS BY 30 DAYS.

SAI is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) registered under the Societies Registration Act,1860, invites application from eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Junior Engineer on deputation basis. In continuation to the advertisement of even number dated 25-02-2026, the closing date for submission of applications for the post of Junior Engineer is hereby extended by 30 days (i.e up to 10-05-2026) (05.00 PM). The remaining clauses stand valid. The application complete in all aspects should reach to the O/o "Director (HRD-II), Room No. 210 2nd Floor, Sports Authority of India, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium (Gate-10), Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 on or before 10-05-2026 or on mail sai.persdiv.recruitment@gmail.com". The details and application form is available on website of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports www.yas.nic.in and SAI i.e. www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in.

Sd./-
Deputy Director (HRD-II)
Sports Authority of India
Head Office

CBC47103/11/0010/2627

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

KPTCL invites Bids on electronic mode for the following works against following Enquiry Numbers:

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through kpp portal Mode Only)

1) No: CGM(Tech)/DGM(PROC &APCC)/EE(PROC)-3/AEE-7/ 2026-27/696-713 Dated: 07.05.2026

Enquiry number / Name of the Work
KPTCL/2026-27/TL/WORK_INDENT3700
Combined package of : Work-(A): Strengthening of existing 66kV Transmission line from existing 220/66kV Anchepalya sub station to 66/11KV Yadiyuru substation by using HTLS (HPC) conductor on existing 66kV Anchepalya - Yadiyuru SC line on DC Tower with one of the circuit to be LILO of 66/11KV Thippur substation for a distance of 28.564kms, along with construction of one number of 66KV TBs at 220/66KV Anchepalya and construction of one number of 66KV TB at 66/11KV Yadiyuru in Kunigal Taluk, Tumakuru District. **Work (B):** Reconductoring of existing 66kV Coyote conductor by HTLS conductor(Ampacity equivalent to Drake ACSR) of 66kV DC line from 220 kV Yachenahally sub-station to 66 kV C.R. Patna sub-station(Line-1 & Line-2) for a distance of 4.791kms in Channarayapatna Taluk, Hassan District. De-commissioning of materials /equipments along with Buy Back of Released Materials. **Work (C):** i) Strengthening of existing 66kV DC line with coyote conductor to HPC from 220kV Yachenahalli sub-station to diversion tower of Shravanabelagola DC line & conversion of existing 66kV SC line on SC Towers by DC line with HPC conductor from diversion tower to 66kV Shravanabelagola sub-station by providing 66kV MC towers and stringing 3rd circuit 66kV Coyote conductor line from Diversion tower to 66kV Shravanabelagola sub-station for providing radial connectivity to 66kV Mattanavile sub-station in Channarayapatna Taluk, Hassan District.ii)Replacement of 2x12.5MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformers by 2x20MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformers and Construction of two number of 66kV Line Terminal bay along with Conversion of existing strung bus by rigid bus at 66/11kV Shravanabelagola sub-station in Channarayapatna Taluk, Hassan District.De-commissioning of materials /equipments along with Buy Back of Released Materials on Total Turnkey basis including Supply of all Materials/equipments, Mandatory Spares, Erection (Including Civil Works) of all materials/equipments, Testing and Commissioning. (buy back of released materials from existing line).

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through kpp portal Mode Only)

2) No: CGM(Tech)/DGM(PROC &APCC)/EE(PROC)-3/AEE-7/ 2026-27/714-729 Dated: 07.05.2026

KPTCL/2026-27/TL/WORK_INDENT3699
Shifting and Re-routing of Existing 110kV DC Ilkal-Kustagi 1 & 2 and 110kV Multi Circuit line Ilkal-Hunagunda 1 & 2 lines along with Solar line passing over the playground of Govt Pre-University College Ilkal Under Hazardous locations coming under the Operation Division Bagalkote. on Total Turnkey basis including Supply of all Materials/equipments, Erection (Including Civil Works) of all materials/equipments, Testing and Commissioning and Buy back of released materials from existing lines. (buy back of released materials from existing line).

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **11.05.2026**. **Any extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the Karnataka Public Procurement portal**. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the Office of the undersigned during Office hours. All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the Bids.

Sd/-, Chief General Manager (Tech), KPTCL, Corporate Office, 11th Floor, Indhana Bhavan, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560 009.

AXIS BANK LIMITED

Public Notice for – Auction of pledged assets being Gold Ornaments

The Borrowers, in specific and the public in general are here buy notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledge in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted by the Axis Bank at the below mentioned Branch.

That the below mentioned Borrowers has availed the credit facility from the **Axis Bank Limited** against the pledge of gold ornaments("Gold Loan Facility") in favour of the Bank towards the security. The Demand notices were issued to the Borrowers/Guarantors calling up the Borrowers/Guarantors to pay their outstanding amount towards the Gold loan facility availed. As the Borrowers/Guarantors have failed to repay the outstanding loan amount, the bank is constrained to invoke the pledge and proposed to conduct an auction sale of pledged gold ornaments more particularly described in schedule of property hereunder on **08.06.2026 at 11.00 AM on "As in where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" and "No Recourse Basis".** Auction will be held at.

Details of Borrowers and outstanding amount

Custmer Name	Loan A/C No.	Outstanding Amount (₹.)	Date of Recall Notice	Gross Weight	Net Weight
Branch Name : Bangarapet					
M V Vijaya Kumar	XXXXXXXXXX8333	515989.05	2-Apr-26	63.100	59.000
Sahana B	XXXXXXXXXX9465	898774.00	2-Apr-26	90.700	86.300
S Jameel Ahmed	XXXXXXXXXX7372	203008.00	16-Feb-26	28.700	27.600
Branch Name : Chikballapur					
Kousalya T	XXXXXXXXXX2874	601838.21	2-Apr-26	95.500	90.490
Narayanaswamy R	XXXXXXXXXX7432	58321.00	2-Apr-26	8.300	8.300
Branch Name : Doddaballapur					
Ramakrishnappa S A	XXXXXXXXXX0508	484003.00	2-Apr-26	52.000	48.500
P S Bharath	XXXXXXXXXX1218	573983.58	13-Apr-26	61.200	59.700
Lingaraju H M	XXXXXXXXXX9813	476134.49	9-Mar-26	103.800	103.800
Jagadamba	XXXXXXXXXX6686	316311.00	13-Apr-26	32.900	30.800
Branch Name : Hoskote					
Vajramuni	XXXXXXXXXX5531	4058555.00	9-Feb-26	742.800	636.300
Chandan R	XXXXXXXXXX7535	3612732.03	9-Mar-26	587.200	404.500
Sharada S N	XXXXXXXXXX9222	2576286.00	9-Feb-26	451.300	384.700
Shashikumar	XXXXXXXXXX1233	2513985.47	2-Apr-26	317.100	283.100
Somarajanayak K	XXXXXXXXXX7663	306382.37	13-Apr-26	37.400	36.100
Somarajanayak K	XXXXXXXXXX3629	300173.00	13-Apr-26	43.200	39.200
Branch Name : Kadugodi					
Vishwas N	XXXXXXXXXX0602	1482040.00	13-Apr-26	144.300	139.100
Likhith M	XXXXXXXXXX1197	1345460.42	13-Apr-26	133.800	128.800
Branch Name : Kolar					
Asif Ahmed	XXXXXXXXXX2509	1291616.71	13-Apr-26	189.900	179.500
Roohi	XXXXXXXXXX2047	768278.70	2-Apr-26	146.300	142.300
Branch Name : Mahadevpura					
HM Subash Chandra	XXXXXXXXXX6198	990916.00	13-Apr-26	153.500	151.600
Branch Name : Mahalakshmi Layout					
Mahesh	XXXXXXXXXX3166	1542005.00	2-Apr-26	158.300	152.800
Mahesh	XXXXXXXXXX3929	1293074.00	2-Apr-26	136.400	128.100
Vijay Kumar T	XXXXXXXXXX2665	891767.00	13-Apr-26	99.200	94.200
R Arun Kumara	XXXXXXXXXX7703	251234.00	16-Feb-26	28.400	28.400
Branch Name : Marathahalli					
Vijayamma	XXXXXXXXXX8597	802838.00	2-Apr-26	133.500	126.800
Surendranatha Reddy	XXXXXXXXXX5306	620007.36	9-Mar-26	79.500	76.000
Pamuri Ramohan Reddy	XXXXXXXXXX1330	74247.00	19-Mar-26	8.400	8.200
S K Saifuddin	XXXXXXXXXX8084	170584.55	2-Apr-26	20.500	20.200
Branch Name : Nelamangala					
Mamatha S C	XXXXXXXXXX1572	1610154.72	2-Apr-26	165.600	155.100
Hanumantharaya	XXXXXXXXXX1166	134027.00	13-Apr-26	30.000	29.000
Branch Name : Peenya					
Ankitha Venkatesh	XXXXXXXXXX1006	3449570.00	9-Mar-26	650.300	522.600
A Narayanaswamy	XXXXXXXXXX7633	463732.00	9-Feb-26	78.800	78.300
Lakshmi H P	XXXXXXXXXX1600	310492.00	10-Jan-26	54.700	50.200
Branch Name : Prashanth Nagar					
B S Prathap	XXXXXXXXXX8277	1341068.97	9-Mar-26	161.900	160.400
Branch Name : Robertsonpet					
J Manoj Kumar	XXXXXXXXXX2025	832000.00	27-Mar-26	100.700	90.700
Shahtaj Banu	XXXXXXXXXX9157	720524.41	2-Apr-26	87.600	87.400
K Priyadharshini	XXXXXXXXXX3716	181866.00	13-Apr-26	18.000	18.000
K Priyadharshini	XXXXXXXXXX7001	85115.00	13-Apr-26	8.000	8.000
Yathish R	XXXXXXXXXX7926	65972.00	2-Apr-26	7.400	7.100
Branch Name : Tiptur					
Yashwanth L	XXXXXXXXXX4722	1527356.14	2-Apr-26	148.750	147.150
Lokesha Y S	XXXXXXXXXX1161	171350.37	9-Mar-26	31.050	30.200
Branch Name : Vijayanagar					
Chetan R	XXXXXXXXXX3701	1029082.00	2-Apr-26	128.700	125.000
Chetan R	XXXXXXXXXX7894	953611.30	2-Apr-26	106.400	95.400

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF TENDER

The Base/Reserve price will be given on the auction day/date to the tenderers on which the auction bid will be considered. The bid/offers in the prescribed tender form provided by the bank shall only be considered for bidding.

Incomplete bid form/tender are treated invalid and shall liable to be rejected.

The tender documents along with the terms and conditions shall be collected from the above branch. The tender document duly completed to be handed to the concerned branch official during working hours on **08.06.2026** Tenders received after the due date will not be considered.

The said properties is / are offered for sale on **"As in where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" and "No Recourse Basis".** The Bank does not undertake any responsibility to standard, purity and /or any other dues, taxes, if any, in respect of the said property.

Tenders will be opened by the Bank on the auction date in the presence of the tenderers who may choose to remain present on the day and time as said above, inter alia, for raising / revising their respective offers.

Branch Names Mentioned Above. Auction Date : 08.06.2026

Offer/tender once submitted cannot be withdrawn and bidder will liable to deposit the bid amount if there is single bid/offer for particular article/asset/ornament.

If there are more than one bid for particular article/asset/ornament, inter-se bidding shall take place amongst the bidder and highest bidder shall be declare as successful bidder.

Bidder should submit all KYC documents i.e. PAN Number, PAN Card, Adhar Card & Address proof etc. Bidder should submit valid E-mail ID & Contact Number

The Bank reserves its right to accept or reject the offer at its sole discretion.

Any disputes / differences arising out of sale of the said property/ offered for sale shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of Courts / Tribunals at Mumbai only.

Place: Karnataka **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Axis Bank LTD.**

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Maharana Pinki Vishwanath S/O, Bishwanath Arjun Maharana R/o No 95 2nd Floor 5th Cross Muneshwara Layout Sultanpalya Main Road Rt Nagar Post Bengaluru 560032 have changed my name to Pinki Rupesh Pardeshi for all purposes.

I, SYEDA Zaiba, D/o Syed Asgar, R/at No.102/36/1, 1st Floor, 8th C Main Road. New Gurappanapalya, Bangalore-560029 have changed my name to Syeeda Zaiba Bi vide Affidavit dated 07.05.2026 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bangalore.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I,JAHNAVI J D/o JAYANTH KUMAR & R/ o No 345 Munireddy Garden Outer Ring Road Bellandur Bengaluru Karnataka–560103 have changed my name to JAHNAVI ZEHRA and I have also changed my religion from HINDUISM to ISLAM.

I, JAYAMMA, W/o Late Bheemanna, R/at No. 3924, 8th Cross, 'B' Block, Gayathrinagar, Bengaluru-560021, have declare that both names Bheemanna and Koorlaiah belongs to one & the same person ie my husband's name, vide Affidavit dated 27-04-2026 sworn before Notary K. S. Giridhar, B'luru

I, MOHAMED Shakeel Razakh Akbar S/o Mohamed Akbar residing GF-01, Inclover Exquisite Apartment No. 28, Saunders Road, Frazer Town, Bengaluru-560005 have changed my name to Mohammed Shakeel Razakh Akbar vide affidavit dated 07-06-2025 before Meer Hassan Notary Bengaluru.

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Why are fathers missing in reproductive health interventions

A father's lifestyle, diet, exercise, exposure to stress and other factors, can programme the next generation, influencing traits in their children; yet, men are barely involved in reproductive health programmes in India; under the RMNCH+A program, male involvement remains limited to the supplementation of iron tablets to adolescent boys

C. Aravinda

India's Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A) programme has steadily reduced maternal mortality, neonatal deaths, and childhood mortality over the past three decades. Success is undeniable, when measured by survival. Yet, a quieter concern is surfacing in clinics and epidemiological data. Many children appear more vulnerable to recurrent infections, metabolic disturbances, and reduced physical robustness. The question is no longer about survival alone, but also about the biological quality of that survival. Increasingly, scientists are beginning to suspect that something fundamental may be missing in how we understand the inheritance of traits from parents.

New findings: In India, there is no structured focus on paternal preconception health, no systematic screening for lifestyle risks among prospective fathers, and minimal emphasis on environmental exposures that may affect sperm quality. GETTY IMAGES

Missing fathers

Reproductive health within the health system has traditionally focused almost exclusively on mothers. Antenatal care, maternal nutrition, and institutional deliveries form the core of national programmes. Fathers, in contrast, have largely remained outside the biological narrative. Emerging scientific evidence now suggests that this omission may not be trivial. A father's diet, lifestyle, exposure to toxins, stress and environment – long before conception – may influence the biology of the child in ways we are only beginning to understand. This shifts the conversation we need to have from a mother-centric model to a more inclusive, bi-parental understanding of health transmission.

The traditional model of reproduction is straightforward. The ovum contributes maternal genetic material, and the sperm delivers the paternal genome. The fusion of these two forms is a zygote, which develops under the guidance of DNA. In this framework, the father's role is limited to the transmission of DNA. His lifestyle choices (including whether he exercised, smoked, or lived in polluted surroundings) were believed to have no bearing on what was passed on. For over a century, this model was reinforced by August Weismann's idea of the blood-testis barrier, which held that environmental influences cannot affect germ (sperm and egg) cells. According to this view, a man's lifestyle, whether healthy or harmful, would not influence the sperm in a way that could be passed on to the next generation. The sperm was seen as a passive carrier of DNA, insulated from the external environment.

This assumption began to weaken in the early 2010s, when studies demonstrated that paternal exposures such as poor diet, alcohol consumption, and environmental toxins could influence offspring traits. These traits were not encoded in DNA changes, but appeared to be transmitted through epigenetic mechanisms. Small molecules, particularly RNA fragments in sperm, were identified as carriers of such information. These molecules could regulate gene expression in early embryos, effectively transmitting information about the father's environment without altering the genetic code itself. This discovery marked a shift in biology, suggesting that inheritance is more dynamic than previously believed. However, one key question remained unanswered: how exactly are these signals transmitted, and how do they shape the child's biology?

New evidence

A recent study published in *Cell Metabolism* by Chinese researchers adds an important layer to this evolving story. In this study, male mice that underwent structured treadmill exercise for eight weeks produced offspring with significantly improved endurance and metabolic profiles. Quantitatively, these offspring ran longer and covered greater distances in treadmill tests, with statistically significant differences often exceeding 30% - 40% compared to offspring of sedentary fathers. Oxygen consumption measurements showed higher VO2 levels across light and dark cycles, indicating enhanced metabolic efficiency. Muscle analysis revealed a shift towards oxidative fibre types, with a notable increase in type I and type IIa fibres and a reduction in glycolytic fibres.

The most compelling contribution of the study lies in its proposed mechanism. The researchers demonstrate that paternal exercise alters the profile of sperm microRNAs, a class of small non-coding RNAs. These microRNAs are delivered to the oocyte at fertilisation and interact with early embryonic transcripts. The study suggests that microRNAs suppress nuclear receptor corepressor 1, a molecule that normally inhibits PGC-1α, a master regulator of mitochondrial function. By relieving this inhibition, the embryo is programmed towards enhanced oxidative metabolism and mitochondrial development. The study further strengthens this causal pathway by injecting sperm-derived small RNAs from exercised fathers into normal embryos, which then reproduced similar metabolic and endurance phenotypes in offspring. It suggests that these RNA molecules are not merely markers, but active agents of inheritance.

One of the most intriguing implications concerns how these molecular signals bypass the classical Weismann barrier. The study suggests that systemic physiological states, such as increased muscular PGC-1α activity during exercise, can influence the composition of small RNAs in sperm. While the exact transport mechanism remains unclear, it is hypothesised that circulating RNA fragments or vesicle-mediated transport systems may allow signals from somatic tissues to influence germ cells. In effect, the barrier is not absolute but selectively permeable to regulatory molecules, particularly small RNAs that can re-programme gene expression without altering DNA.

During fertilisation, the sperm does more than deliver DNA. It contributes a complex molecular cargo, including proteins and RNA fragments. These molecules interact with the oocyte cytoplasm and influence the earliest stages of embryonic development.

The study highlights that sperm microRNAs can act immediately after fertilisation, modifying transcriptional networks before the embryo begins its own gene expression. This early window appears critical, as small changes in gene regulation at this stage can lead to lasting physiological differences in the offspring.

Several uncertainties persist. The precise fate of these microRNAs after fertilisation is not fully understood. It remains unclear how long they persist, which genes they consistently target, and whether their effects extend beyond the first generation. Furthermore, the findings are based entirely on animal models, and extrapolation to humans must be done cautiously. Human reproductive biology is more complex, and environmental exposures are far more variable. There is also a limited understanding of dose-response relationships, that is, how much lifestyle change is required to produce measurable effects in offspring.

What needs to be done

Even though we still don't fully understand how a father's lifestyle influences his child's biology, what is increasingly clear is that it does. This understanding however, is yet to translate into policy action.

In India, under the RMNCH+A program, male involvement remains limited to the supplementation of iron tablets to adolescent boys. There is no structured focus on paternal preconception health, no systematic screening for lifestyle risks among prospective fathers, and minimal emphasis on environmental exposures that may affect sperm quality.

Addressing lifestyle factors such as physical activity, substance use, and environmental exposures among men of reproductive age may offer a low-cost, high-impact strategy to improve population health across generations. If these findings hold true in humans, the implications are profound.

(Dr. C. Aravinda is an academic and public health physician. The views expressed are personal. aravindaaiimsjr10@hotmail.com)

THE GIST

- Reproductive health within the health system has traditionally focused almost exclusively on mothers. Fathers, in contrast, have largely remained outside the biological narrative. Emerging scientific evidence now suggests that this omission may not be trivial
- A recent study published in *Cell Metabolism* by Chinese researchers showed that male mice that underwent structured treadmill exercise for eight weeks produced offspring with significantly improved endurance and metabolic profiles
- Addressing lifestyle factors such as physical activity, substance use, and environmental exposures among men of reproductive age may offer a low-cost, high-impact strategy to improve population health across generations

Wastewater surveillance revealed hidden COVID surges in Bengaluru

Afshan Yasmeen

Wastewater surveillance in Bengaluru closely tracked COVID-19 trends during the first Omicron wave, but later emerged as an important tool in identifying hidden surges that were not fully captured through routine clinical testing, according to researchers studying the city's sewage-based monitoring network.

A study published in *PLOS Global Public Health* by researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS) which is a part of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) and Tata Institute for Genetics and Society (TIGS) found that wastewater surveillance mirrored the rise in COVID-19 cases during the Omicron wave, though it did not provide an early warning of the surge. Researchers said viral loads detected in sewage and reported infections rose almost simultaneously during that phase, limiting its usefulness as a predictive tool. However, subsequent wastewater monitoring indicated that as clinical testing declined in later phases of the pandemic, sewage surveillance became increasingly valuable in identifying fresh waves of infection that may otherwise have gone underreported.

Four COVID-19 surges

Farah Ishtiaq, a researcher from TIGS who is one of the authors of the *PLOS* study, told *The Hindu* that Bengaluru experienced four distinct COVID-19 surges between December 2021 and April 2024. These included the BA.2.10 wave, followed by a mixed BA.2 lineage surge involving BA.4, BA.5 and BA.2.75 variants, then the XBB wave, and most recently the JN.1 surge.

"During the early phase, from December 2021 to June 2022, wastewater signals and reported clinical cases were closely aligned. That showed both surveillance systems were functioning effectively and capturing the spread of infection in the community," Dr. Ishtiaq said.

She said the situation changed from July 2022 to November 2023, when routine clinical testing declined substantially. Testing, she said, was often stepped up only after infections had already begun to rise. "That points to a reactive rather than proactive surveillance model. Wastewater monitoring, on the other hand, continued consistently and therefore became a more dependable indicator of community transmission," she said.

Close study: Wastewater monitoring can became a dependable indicator of community transmission. FILE PHOTO

Reflection of trends

According to Dr. Ishtiaq, these trends were also reflected in a separate study in *The Lancet*, which analysed weekly wastewater monitoring data from Bengaluru. The study found that during the early phase of the Omicron period, virus levels in sewage closely matched reported clinical cases, but later diverged as testing levels dropped. Researchers said sewage data clearly detected a major surge associated with the XBB variant in April 2023, followed by another rise linked to the JN.1 variant beginning in late December 2023. Both these waves were visible in wastewater trends but were not proportionately reflected in clinical case reporting or genomic surveillance data.

The findings, they said, underline the importance of maintaining multiple surveillance systems, especially once public testing intensity declines after major pandemic waves. Bengaluru was among the early Indian cities to establish systematic wastewater surveillance, beginning citywide monitoring in August 2021. Samples were collected from 26 sewage treatment plants (STPs), which together process a large share of the city's wastewater.

For the *PLOS* study, researchers mapped wastewater catchment areas to 198 administrative wards under the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, allowing comparison of viral load data from individual STPs with ward-level case counts. The analysis focused on November 15, 2021, to January 31, 2022, covering the first Omicron wave. Using statistical tools such as Pearson correlation and change-point analysis, researchers found strong correlation – often above 0.8 – between wastewater viral loads and case counts across most treatment plants, indicating that sewage surveillance can reliably track infection trends in real time. However, the study found no robust lead time that would allow authorities to anticipate outbreaks significantly before clinical cases increased. Apparent short leads were attributed to interpolation of weekly wastewater data rather than genuine advance warning signals.

Complementary tool

Dr. Ishtiaq said wastewater surveillance should be viewed as a complementary public health tool rather than a replacement for clinical surveillance. "By the time a strong signal appears in wastewater, it often means that a substantial number of people in the community are already infected. That is why routine clinical testing at sentinel locations remains essential for early detection and timely response," she said. She added that maintaining consistent surveillance even between waves would help cities respond earlier, prepare hospitals and reduce the impact of future outbreaks. The findings underline that while wastewater monitoring cannot substitute clinical case detection, it offers a crucial window into community transmission -particularly when routine testing systems weaken or public participation in testing declines.

(yasmeen.afshan@thehindu.co.in)

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Children hospitalised after having mid-day meals in Bihar school

150 + Children fell ill after allegedly consuming mid-day meals at a government school in Bihar's Saharsa district, with over 100 admitted to the district hospital and others shifted to a local health centre. Family members of some children claimed that a snake was found in the meal, but the authorities have not made any comment on it yet. PTI

Value of narcotic tablets seized near Nepal border in U.P.

1 in ₹ crores. Uttar Pradesh Police arrested three alleged interstate smugglers and seized banned narcotic tablets worth around ₹1 crore near the India-Nepal border in Maharajganj district during an anti-narcotics operation. The police said the trio had been active in the region for the past three months and used hired vehicles to transport the banned tablets. PTI

Ex-Rajasthan minister arrested in Jal Jeevan Mission scam probe

960 in ₹ crores. Rajasthan's Anti-Corruption Bureau arrested former minister Mahesh Joshi in connection with the alleged ₹960-crore Jal Jeevan Mission scam involving fraudulent tenders and forged completion certificates, with multiple officials and contractors already under investigation. PTI

Number of passengers handled by Kochi airport during 2025-26

1.14 in crores. Cochin International Airport handled more than 1.14 crore passengers during 2025-26, marking the fourth consecutive financial year in which it crossed the 10 million passenger milestone despite disruptions linked to airline operations and tensions in West Asia. The airport also recorded over 73,000 aircraft movements during the period. PTI

Suspected mastermind arrested in fake firms and hawala racket

3,200 in ₹ crore. The Uttar Pradesh Police arrested a man accused of masterminding a network of fake firms, forged documents and suspected 'hawala' transactions worth more than ₹ 3,200 crore, with investigators probing links to GST fraud and possible terror funding. PTI

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Scope of legal fiction in party mergers

Henry Maine called legal fiction an agency by which law adapts to changing societies. In the Indian context, a 1955 ruling delineating the scope of legal fiction, reaffirmed by the Supreme Court in March, sets limits that the law on defections has yet to absorb.

LETTER AND SPIRIT

V. Venkatesan

The law has a long-standing habit of pretending: that an adopted child is the natural child of the adoptive parents, that a registered company is a person capable of suing and being sued. Sir Henry Maine, in *Ancient Law* (1861), called the legal fiction one of three great agencies, alongside equity and legislation, by which law adapts to changing societies.

The device has not been universally welcomed; historically, jurists worried that fictions allowed judges to make law in disguise. Lon Fuller, in his Stanford monograph *Legal Fictions* (1967), laid down the modern test: a fiction is honest only when its falsity is openly acknowledged; once it is "taken seriously", once people begin to treat the pretence as fact, it loses its utility and becomes dangerous. A fiction is a tool, fashioned for a defined end, and works only within that end.

On legal fiction in India

In Indian constitutional law, the leading authority on this discipline is *Bengal Immunity Co. Ltd. vs State of Bihar* (1955), decided by a seven-judge Constitution Bench. The case concerned a Calcutta-based company that manufactured vaccines and sera and sold them to buyers in Bihar; Bihar sought to tax those sales by relying on a deeming clause then attached to Article 286(1) of the Constitution, which treated a sale as having taken place in the State where the goods were delivered for consumption. The Court rejected Bihar's argument, holding that the deeming clause served only to fix the location of a sale for one purpose and could not be stretched to override the separate constitutional bar on State taxation of inter-State trade. Acting Chief Justice S.R. Das laid down the formulation that has since governed: a legal fiction is created for a definite purpose, must be limited to that purpose, and must not be extended beyond its legitimate field.

In April, the Rajya Sabha Chairman accepted the merger of seven AAP MPs with BJP. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

A complementary discipline came from Lord Asquith of the House of Lords in *East End Dwellings Co. Ltd. vs Finsbury Borough Council* (1952): one must imagine the necessary consequences of the fiction, but must not let imagination "boggle" beyond them. The Indian Supreme Court adopted that formulation in *J.K. Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd. vs Union of India* (1987), confining a deeming fiction in the Central Excise Rules to its stated purpose.

That this discipline remains current was reaffirmed on March 10, 2026, in *Registrar Cane Cooperative Societies vs Gurdeep Singh Narval* by the Supreme Court. The case concerned two sugarcane growers' cooperative societies, Bajpur and Gadarpur, whose villages had fallen partly in Uttar Pradesh and partly in Uttarakhand after the new State was carved out of Uttar Pradesh in 2000. Years later, a member of the Bajpur society argued that his society had automatically become a "Multi-State" cooperative society on the date of bifurcation by virtue of a deeming clause in Section 103 of the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002. Justices P.S. Narasimha and Alok Aradhe rejected the argument. The deeming fiction in Section 103 had a defined purpose: to govern societies whose stated objects extended to more than one State. It could not be extended to undo a completed reorganisation of societies whose objects were confined to a single State. The case was about cooperative societies; the principle it applied governs every deeming clause in every statute.

The merger of political parties

Among the deeming clauses of political consequence is paragraph 4(2) of the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution (on disqualification for defection). Paragraph 4 protects legislators when their original political party merges with another and two-thirds of the legislature party agree to it.

The merger of the original party is the substantive condition; the legislative threshold is the verifying count. Paragraph 4(2) provides that a merger "shall be deemed to have taken place if, and only if" the two-thirds is met. Read against the *Bengal Immunity* case, these words tell the adjudicator how to verify a merger that has happened in the original political party, not that the legislators' assent is itself the merger.

That distinction was settled, on a parallel clause, by a 2007 Constitution Bench in *Rajendra Singh Rana vs Swami Prasad Maurya*. The argument that a legislature-party threshold could itself satisfy the substantive event in the original party would, the Court said, render one limb of the clause redundant. The court rejected it, holding further that the Speaker has no independent power under the Tenth Schedule to recognise either a split or a merger. The Punjab and Haryana High Court applied this in *Speaker, Haryana Vidhan Sabha vs Kuldeep Bishnoi* (2011): legislators alone cannot effect a merger; the original political party itself must take the substantive decision.

Recent practice, however, has allowed distortions. The Bombay High Court (Goa Bench) has twice upheld merger orders based solely on a two-thirds resolution of legislators, in 2022 and January 2025; the latter is under challenge before the Supreme Court. In April, the Rajya Sabha Chairman accepted, by administrative decision, the merger of seven Aam Aadmi Party MPs with the BJP on the same reading. A disqualification petition by the AAP has been filed. *Bengal Immunity* and *Rana*, read together, would have arrived at the opposite conclusion.

The reason is doctrinal. A deeming clause read as constitutive ceases to be a fiction. It becomes a substantive grant of power: the power of a faction of legislators to declare a merger that the parent political party has not authorised. That is the danger Fuller named and acting Chief Justice Das addressed when he confined legal fictions to their definite purpose.

(V. Venkatesan is a journalist and legal researcher.)

THE GIST

- Among the deeming clauses of political consequence is paragraph 4(2) of the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution. It protects legislators when their original political party merges with another and two-thirds of the legislature party agree to it.
- The Bombay High Court (Goa Bench) has twice upheld merger orders based solely on a two-thirds resolution of legislators. In April, the Rajya Sabha Chairman accepted the merger of seven Aam Aadmi Party MPs with the BJP on the same reading.

How does Kerala plan to tackle oil spill hazards?

What prompted the drafting of the Oil Spill Contingency Plan? How will it help protect Kerala's coastline?

G. Krishnakumar

The story so far:

Kerala had witnessed two shipwrecks off its coast involving two separate vessels – MSC Elsa 3 and MV Wan Hai 503 – on May 25, 2025 and June 9, 2025 respectively. The incidents had raised a serious threat to the State's marine ecosystem and coastal environment. The container ship MSC Elsa 3 went down with 640 containers, including 13 with hazardous cargo and 12 with calcium carbide. A large quantity of pellets, also called nurdles, had washed ashore on the southern coast following the incident. It prompted the authorities to step up efforts to formulate an Oil Spill Contingency Plan (OSCP). The Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), which was entrusted by the government to initiate the required measures, had awarded the work to a Bangalore-based firm. The agency submitted a report dated April 20, 2026 before the National Green Tribunal stating that the draft OSCP is ready.

Kerala has a coastal line of 590 km, and the entire coast is prone to oil spill disasters as one of the international oil transportation routes is adjacent to the State's coastal line. As per the terms of reference for preparing the OSCP, oil tankers and other ships visiting ports in the State pose a risk to the coastline areas, when they are involved in accidents. The proposal to prepare an OSCP was initiated in 2016 as part of a governmental review of the preparedness of major accident hazard units to handle chemical accidents. However, it got delayed due to various technical and financial hurdles. The scope of work included marine oil spills that occur within 12 nautical miles (24 km) of Kerala's coastline and riverine systems extending 40 km inland or till tidal effect is evident, whichever is greater.

What are the highlights of the OSCP?

It includes mapping the Environmental Sensitive Index of oil spills along the coast of Kerala and preparing response-focussed contingency plans. The framework will elaborate on the oil spill contingency planning guidelines, wildlife response plans, ship board pollution emergency plans and tactical oil spill booming/site response plans. It will also include guidelines for crisis management and marine emergency response plans. The OSCP will highlight mitigation measures to be initiated in the wake of an emergency, the responsibilities of various departments, oil spill risks and protection priorities, shoreline response operations, and administrative action for clean-up. It will identify areas involving operation of fishing boats and ships, and map environmentally vulnerable areas along the State's coast.

The OSCP will recommend a detailed response plan with chain of command, duties and responsibilities. It will have the contact details, list of all available resources to be pressed into service in an emergency, and the database of available machinery or equipment for clean-up operations. The Plan will highlight the steps to be taken before initiating the shoreline clean-up, including assessment of shoreline oil characteristics, on-site conditions, methods to be adopted and the scope of work required in each area as per the priorities. The KSPCB has stated that the OSCP will be prepared in accordance with the guidelines of the National Oil Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP) of 2015, 2018 and 2024.

What steps precede the final OSCP?

As per the KSPCB, the draft OSCP includes various aspects related to hydrodynamic, oil spill modelling, marine sensitivity index mapping and net environmental benefit analysis. It will be vetted by a committee of experts. The draft Plan will be submitted to the Indian Coast Guard – the central coordinating agency for combating oil pollution in the coastal and marine environment. The final OSCP will be published after receiving the required clearances.

THE GIST

- Kerala had witnessed two shipwrecks off its coast last year, raising serious threats to the State's marine ecosystem and coastal environment. It prompted the authorities to step up efforts to formulate an Oil Spill Contingency Plan.
- The framework will elaborate on the oil spill contingency planning guidelines, wildlife response plans, ship board pollution emergency plans and tactical oil spill booming/site response plans.

Non-profit launches free HLA typing for children with blood disorder

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In an initiative aimed at reducing financial barriers faced by families seeking curative treatment for beta thalassaemia major, DKMS Foundation India, a non-profit organisation dedicated to the fight against blood cancer and other blood disorders, has announced free HLA (Human Leukocyte Antigen) typing for children below 12 years of age suffering from the inherited blood disorder across India.

The announcement was made ahead of World Thalassaemia Day – observed on May 8 – as part of the organisation's efforts to improve access to stem cell transplantation and help children find suitable donors. Beta thalassaemia major is a condition that often requires lifelong blood transfusions unless treated through stem cell transplantation.

To address gaps

Elke Neujahr, Global CEO, DKMS Group, said the programme was designed to address gaps in affordability and access to transplantation.

"Through initiatives such as free HLA typing for children below 12 years suffering from transfusion-dependent beta thalassaemia, we aim to ease the burden on families navigating the transplant journey," she said.

Under the programme, DKMS will conduct awareness and screening camps in partnership with NGOs and transplant centres across the country. During these camps, patients and their family members will provide buccal swabs (a non-invasive method used to collect DNA or oral cells from the inner cheek lining) for HLA typing to identify potential family donors.

The samples will be analysed at DKMS laboratories in Germany and matching reports will be shared with families. If no suitable donor is found within the family, DKMS will facilitate free unrelated donor searches through its registry network.

Patrick Paul, executive chairman, DKMS Foundation India, said the organisation's 'Access to Transplant' programme sought to support patients through guidance, donor searches and financial assistance for stem cell transplantation.

According to doctors, India sees more than 10,000 children born with thalassaemia every year. However, finding matched unrelated stem cell donors remains difficult because of the limited number of registered donors from Indian populations.

How to register

To register as a potential stem cell donor, individuals must be healthy adults between 18 and 55 years of age. Registration requires filling out a simple consent form. A swab of the inside of the cheeks is taken to collect the tissue cells, which are then analysed for HLA.

The potential donor is then listed anonymously on the international search platform for matching stem cell donors. Eligible individuals can register as blood stem cell donors by ordering a home swab kit at https://www.dkms-india.org/register-now and join the movement to save lives.

Engineering student's decision to bunk class gives thalassaemia patient a second chance at life

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

What began as a casual decision to bunk a class during engineering college days in Bengaluru eventually turned into a life-changing moment for Dilip K., a 27-year-old IT professional from Kadahalli in Kolar district.

Ahead of World Thalassaemia Day, Mr. Dilip on Thursday met 12-year-old Sameeksha for the first time – the young girl whose life he helped save through stem cell donation. Until Thursday, the two were connected only through a genetic match identified during the donor search process.

Back in 2019, Mr. Dilip had registered for stem cell donation at a camp organised in his college. "It was just a class bunk for us then, when I registered as a donor casually in a camp organised in my college, I never imagined it would one day help save someone's life," he told *The Hindu*.

Dignitaries with donor Dilip K. and patient Sameeksha, along with their families. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

WORLD THALASSAEMIA DAY

Two years later, DKMS Foundation India, a non-profit organisation dedicated to the fight against blood cancer and other blood disorders, contacted him with unexpected news: he was a perfect match for a nine-year-old girl who was battling beta thalassaemia major, an inherited blood disorder characterised by reduced haemoglobin production. She urgently needed a stem cell transplant.

He said he initially hesitated because he knew little about stem cell donation and feared possible health complications. But after repeated counselling and reassurance from doctors and the Foundation, he agreed to donate. The transplant was carried out successfully in 2023, giving Sameeksha a second chance at life. Meeting her for the first time on Thursday proved deeply emotional for the donor, who was accompanied by his proud mother. "Seeing her smile today makes everything real," he said.

Sameeksha, now recovering, said she was finally able to live like other children.

"I feel happy now. I can play and go to school," she said softly, tears in her eyes. Her mother Neeta Ambekar said, "We kept waiting and praying for a match. Meeting him today is something we had only imagined."

Since the family could not afford the transplant expenses, DKMS Foundation India provided partial financial support under its patient funding programme for economically weaker families.

Patrick Paul, Executive Chairman of DKMS India, said financial barriers continue to prevent many from accessing life-saving treatment.

Siddhesh Kalantri, consultant Haematologist and Stem Cell Transplant Physician, BloodCare Haematology Clinic and Diagnostic Centre in Nashik, who conducted the transplant, said the stem cell transplant was Sameeksha's only curative option. "However, finding a matched unrelated donor for a child is often extremely difficult. When Mr Dilip's match came through, it was a huge relief. Sameeksha's journey shows what becomes possible when early diagnosis, timely treatment and a willing donor come together," the doctor added.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, MAY. 08	
RISE 05:57	SET 18:36
RISE 00:00	SET 10:59
SATURDAY, MAY. 09	
RISE 05:56	SET 18:36
RISE 00:09	SET 11:51
SUNDAY, MAY. 10	
RISE 05:56	SET 18:36
RISE 00:50	SET 12:41

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	15
Mysuru	35	21
Bengaluru	33	22

Bengaluru Today
33°C The weather will be warm. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower at few places.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
34°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm. Night also will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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UNIVERSITY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES, BAGALKOT.
Office Of The Estate Officer, Udyanagiri, Near Simikeri, By-Pass Road, Bagalkot - 587 104.
No. : S.P.O./E.O./U.H.S.B./TN - 220/2026-27 Date : 07-05-2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot is inviting Short Term Tender for the **Gold Medal for the use of Registrar Office, UHS, Bagalkot.** The interested suppliers are requested to participate in the Short Term Tender Online through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. For more Details, **Please Contact Phone : 08354-230258 and visit the link : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for detailed Specification, Conditions and Schedule of Events and notification.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1) Last Date and Time for Tender Queries / Clarification : 11-05-2026 @ 14.00 Hrs, 2) Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders : 16-05-2026 @ 16.00 Hrs, 3) Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid : 18-05-2026 @ 11.00 Hrs, 4) Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid (if possible) : 20-05-2026 @ 12.00 Hrs.

All Bidders shall get updated with Corrigendum / Addendum received from Time to Time During the Entire Tender Process by visiting KPP Portal.

Sd/- Estate Officer, U.H.S., Bagalkot.

DIPR/Bagalkot/19/Manipal/2026-27

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರ ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳ ನಿಯಮಿತ
ಕಹಾಮ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ, ಡಾ॥ ಎಂ.ಹೆಚ್.ಮರಿಗೌಡ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560029.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080–25536625 / 25536789 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 080–25536105 ಇಮೇಲ್: kmfengg@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:–ಕಹಾಮ/ಆಡಿ/ಪ.ಆ.ಫ–ಗುಬ್ಬಿ/ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆ ಮತ್ತಿತರೆ ಕೆಲಸಗಳು/02302/26–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.05.2026

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳವು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ.ಡಿ/ಸಿ.ಪಿ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ.ಡಿ/ಎಂ.ಇ.ಎಸ್ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು / ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಿರುವ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖೇನ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟಿ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು (Technical and Financial) ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತರು ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. **(Help desk e-mail: support@eprochelpdesk.com and helpline No: +91-804601000, +91-8068948777).**

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ರೂ.	ಮುಕ್ತಾಯದ ಅವಧಿ
1	ಕಹಾಮದ ಗುಬ್ಬಿ ಪಶು ಆಹಾರ ಘಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಡಳಿತ ಕಟ್ಟಡದ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆ/ಹೊಸ ಮಹಡಿ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾಡ್ಯುಲರ್ ಲ್ಯಾಬ್ ಕೆಲಸಗಳು, ಸ್ಯಾವರ–I ರಲ್ಲಿ ಎಫ್.ಜಿ.ಎಸ್, ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಸ್ಟೋರ್, ಡಾಕ್ ರೂಫಿಂಗ್‌ಗಳ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆ/ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ, M.M.C.F ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರ್ಟಿಷನ್ಸ್ ಮತ್ತಿತ್ತರೆ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕೆಲಸಗಳು–ಗುಬ್ಬಿ, ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.	593.68 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು (ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ. ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ)	9,00,000/–	10 ತಿಂಗಳು

1. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **11.05.2026** ರಿಂದ **11.06.2026**ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **4:00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. 2. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **11.06.2026** ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **4:00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. 3. ಟೆಂಡರ್ (Cover-1) ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **12.06.2026** ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **04:30** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಇನ್ನಿತರೆ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು, ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ/ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಹಕಾರ ಹಾಲು ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳದ ಪರವಾಗಿ
ಸಹಿ/– ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು (ಅಭಿಯಂತರ–1)

Government of Karnataka
The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Hassan Division, Hassan.
No. EE/PWD/HSN/JE-3/2026-27/DATED: 05.05.2026

Postponement of TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 47/ 2025-26, Dated: 16.03.2026

Last date and time for receipt of tender for Sl No-06 of This Office Tender Notification No.47/2025-26, Dated 16.03.2026, has been postponed to 20.05.2026 up to 16.00 Hours. Other terms and conditions remains unaltered. For more details please visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact this office through Phone No. 08172-268437 or in person during office hours

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD, Hassan Division, Hassan.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/103/ಕೆಎಸ್.ಎಂಸಿಎ/2026–27

CITY CORPORATION BELAGAVI
C.T.S. No. 4821/26, 4821/27, R.S. No. 1005, Subhasha Nagara, Belagavi, Ph. : 0831-2405304, E-mail : itstaff_ulb_belgaum@yahoo.com, Website : www.belgaumcity.mrc.gov.in

No. : C.C.B./P.W.D./E.E./D.M./TND/E-Proc - 02/2026-27
Date : 07-05-2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 Rules 2000 through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for **13 Number of Electrical & Market Development Works** approved under Corporation Fund.

1) Last Date for Queries : 18-05-2026 upto 5.00 p.m., 2) Pre-Bid Meeting : 19-05-2026 at 11.00 a.m. in Office of the Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi, 3) Last Date for Receipt of Tender : 25-05-2026 upto 4.00 p.m., 4) Date for Opening of Technical Bid : 27-05-2026 at 11.00 a.m. in Office of the Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi, 5) Date for Opening of Financial Bid : 29-05-2026 at 11.00 a.m. in Office of the Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi.

For more details visit online **Website : https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Any Addendum / Corrigendum will be published in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only.

Sd/- Commissioner, City Corporation Belagavi.

DIPR/Belagavi/208/Manipal/2026-27

KOCHI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A joint venture company of Govt. of India & Govt. of Kerala)
4th Floor, JLN Stadium Metro Station, Kaloor, Ernakulam-682017
Ph: 0484-2846700

E-TENDER

E-Tender cum Auction Notice for Property Development and Lease of part of building at Edapally Metro Station

Tender ID 2026_KMRL_848855_1
Bid submission end date : 16.05.2026

Tender documents can be downloaded from www.etenders.kerala.gov.in / www.kochimetro.org
Further corrigendum & addendum will be published only on website

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
BENGALURU URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH
O/o Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, First Floor,
Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road,
Banashankari (Near Banashankari Temple), Bengaluru 560070.
Phone No: 080-26716046 Website: http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

No.EE/PRED/BNG(U)/TND/JE-1/08/2026-27 Dated: 07.05.2026

KPPP Tender Notice (Two Cover System)
SHORT TERM SERVICE TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited through KPP Portal by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Bangalore Urban, For Service tender for Housekeeping details can obtained from the kppp Web Site The Tender Documents can be obtained and submitted on or before Dated:14.05.2026 upto 4.00 pm. Further details can be obtained from web site at **http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office during office working hours.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Bangalore Urban Dist, Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/558/SSC/2026-27

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. CEE/SLDC/SEE-SCADA/EE(D)/AEE-Proj/F-48/2026-27/749 Date: 07.05.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

KPTCL, invites bid against **Tender No: KPTCL/2026-27/ IND0306** from the OEM/Authorized Agencies of the OEM for **Supply of 450Nos. of Communication cards (CMU) compatible to existing RTU (RTU560 of ABB), conforming to the Technical Specifications**.

The details can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 08.05.2026** and the last date & time for receipt of bid is as in e-portal. Any extensions of due date for bid submission will be intimated in the e-portal and if any details required in this regard can also be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the bids.

Sd/- **Chief Engineer (Electy.), SLDC, KPTCL, # 28, Race Course Cross Road, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560009.**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(CONSTRUCTION / ROAD SAFETY PROJECTS)
E-Tender Notice No. CAO-CN-RSP-ROB-2-2026, DATED: 04.05.2026

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction, Road Safety Projects, Southern Railway, Egmore, Chennai 600 008 invites e-tender for the following work(s) as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tenderers/Contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted.

Sl. No.	Name of the work
1	**Tender No: CAO-CN-RSP-ROB-2-2026** **1. MAS Division - AJJ - JTJ** section- Proposed 1 x 7.0 x 3.6m RCC Pre-cast box subway at km 145/200-300 in lieu of existing LC No: 61 between Latteri and Kavanur stations (Air Push Method) **2. MAS Division -** Proposed 1 x 7.7 x 4.0m Pre-cast RCC box subway in lieu of existing LC No: 70 at km 165/400-500 between Valathoor and Melpatti stations (Air Push Method) **3. MAS Division - AJJ - JTJ** section - Proposed 1 x 7.70 x 3.6m Pre-cast RCC box subway at km 166/900 in lieu of existing LC No: 71 at km 167/0-100 between Valathoor and Melpatti stations (Air Push Method) **4. MAS Division - AJJ - JTJ** section - Proposed 1 x 7.00m x 3.66m RCC Pre-cast box subway in lieu of existing LC No: 74 at km 172/300-400 between Melpatti and Pachchakuppam stations (Air Push Method); Cash Value (₹) : **178712668**; Closing Date and Time: **27.05.2026 at 15.00 hrs.**
2	**Tender No: CAO-CN-RSP-ROB-03-2026** Proposed 2 Lane Road Over Bridge in lieu of LC No.376 along with LUS at Km 455/800-900,1 x 42.0m steel Bow string girder between Vellanur and Pudukottai Stations.; Cash Value (₹) : **115951223**; Closing Date and Time: **27.05.2026 at 15.00 hrs.**
3	**Tender No: CAO-CN-RSP-ROB-04-2026** Proposed Road Over Bridge in lieu of Exg. LC No.16 at km19/100 1 x 44m EFF span steel Composite Girder near Pasur Railway Station Yard.; Cash Value (₹) : **104992855**; Closing Date and Time: **27.05.2026 at15.00 hrs.**
4	**Tender No: CAO-CN-RSP-ROB-05-2026** SALEM DIVISION - Proposed Construction of Road Over Bridge at Rly.km 7/100-200 in Lieu of Existing LC no. 4 at KM 6/800-900 between Coimabatore North and Karamadai Stations in Coimbatore - Mettupalayam Section) along with Pedestrian Subway.; Cash Value (₹) : **211877669**; Closing Date and Time: **27.05.2026 at 15.00 hrs.**
5	**Tender No: CAO-CN-RSP-ROB-6-2026** MDU Division - VPT - MEJ section - Proposed Construction of Road Over Bridge in lieu of existing LC No: 424 at km 565/100-200 with 1x42m clear span steel bowstring girder between Sattur and Nalli station along with limited use subway.; Cash Value (₹) : **148066898**; Closing Date and Time: **27.05.2026 at 15.00 hrs.**

For further details, please refer to website portal **www.ireps.gov.in** or contact Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Construction, Road Safety Projects, Southern Railway, E.V.R. High Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.

Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction, Road Safety Projects, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.

KARNATAKA STATE POLICE HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
#59, Richmond Road (Gen K.S. Thimmaiah Road),
Bengaluru-25. Ph: 080-25584102 / 25594893
Email: eecontractksphc@gmail.com Website: www.ksphc.org

No: PHC/CNT/EMPANELMENT/TND/2026-27/04/170 Date: 07.05.2026

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(Through KPP Portal)

Name of work : Consultancy Services for Soil Testing (SBC - Safe Bearing Capacity) at various location within Karnataka.

01 KSPH & IDCL invites online Expression of Interest from Eligible Firms / Agencies for work of Consultancy Services for Soil Testing (SBC - Safe Bearing Capacity) at various location within Karnataka.
02 The details such as Tender fee, Tender documents etc., are available in **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** portal **from 11.05.2026 onwards.**
03 KSPH&IDCL invites interested consultancies/firms/agencies to submit expression of interest for Soil Testing (SBC - Safe Bearing Capacity) as per the terms laid out in this EOI.
04 The consultancies / firms / agencies are advised to study the Expression of Interest (EOI) document carefully before submitting / uploading the documents in response to this EOI.
05 The EOI document is not transferable.
06 Hard copy of the responses to the EOI (duly signed) may be submitted to the Office of Executive Engineer, Contract section, KSPH&IDCL, Bangalore-560025 on or before last date of receipt.
07 The Right to accept / reject an any or all responses received is reserved with KSPH&IDCL.

Note: Henceforth any changes / modifications in the Tender will be updated only on KPPP.

DIPR/CP/YC/547/2026-27 **Sd/- Executive Engineer - Contracts**

KOLAR DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCER'S SOCIETIES UNION LIMITED.,KOLAR
[P.B No. 63, N.H-75, Huthur Post, Kolar – 563102. Karnataka]
(Ph.No 08152-282 310/350/331,7760964517, E-Mail komulpurchase@yahoo.com)

IFT No. KMU/ PUR/ E-PROCUREMENT/790/2026-27 Date:06.05.2026

**** E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION ****

The Kolar Milk Union Limited, Kolar invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the supply of the following materials.

Sl.No.	Description of Materials	Qty
01	Supply of Biomass Briquettes for the period of one Year to KOMUL	7,665 M.Tons
02	Supply of Durox LR Grade Hydrogen Peroxide through carboys for the period of one Year to KOMUL	50,000 Kgs
03	Supply of R-22 Gas for the period of one Year to KOMUL	1400 Kgs
04	Supply of Computer Stationery for the period of one Year to KOMUL	01 Lot
05	Supply of A/4 Size Printing Paper (Xerox Paper) for the period of one Year to KOMUL	2,600 Ream

Access to E-tender Documents : 07.05.2026 to 06.06.2026 5.30 PM
Last date for submission : on or before 06.06.2026, 5.30 PM
Date of opening of Tech. Tender : 08.06.2026, 11.00 AM onwards

Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement website **https://Kppp.Karnataka.gov.in/**

Sd/-
M.D.KOMUL

Government of Karnataka - Zilla Panchayat
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru
Ph No.: 08262-220936 e-mail: zpedckm@rediffmail.com
Tender Notice No.:29/25-26/4th Call/302 Date: 05.05.2026

Tender Notice (4th Call)

Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru invites Tenders through K.P.P.P. related to works of Tarikere Taluk in Chikkamagaluru District. Max. Approx. Amount put to Tender is Rs. 65.12 lakhs and Min. Approx. amount is Rs. 29.44 lakhs. Details of capability to undertake or of having implemented the works should be attached as per Standard Tender Document KW – 2 & 3. For the said works the documents downloaded from K.P.P.P. can be filled and uploaded from 05.05.2026 to 18.05.2026 up to 5.30 PM. Technical Bid will be opened on 20.05.2026 at 5.05 PM. If possible the Financial Bid will be opened on 25.05.2026 at 11.00 AM. If this day is declared as holiday then the next day will be considered. Notice can be read on www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Further details can be obtained by contacting the case worker during office hours.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Chikkamagaluru.

DIPR/CKM/KSMCA/26-27/25/197

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

IN THE LIMELIGHT

How Attenborough's imagery hid a history of colonial harm

David Attenborough's legacy of bringing nature's beauty to millions is unparalleled. However, his choice of aesthetics over politics sustained colonial myths and obscured the violent realities of modern conservation

Vasudevan Mukunth

The British natural historian David Attenborough turns 100 today. It is likely no one has done more to make the non-human world more legible and loveable to mass audiences. Attenborough's career as a host, starting with *Zoo Quest* in 1954, spans seven decades and nine documentary series. His influence on how several generations of people worldwide perceive ecology and conservation is unparalleled.

Yet that is also what has made his work and his efforts to communicate it so troublesome.

David Attenborough stands with a floral sculpture of himself at Kew Gardens in London. AP

Moving animals out

Zoo Quest made Attenborough famous, especially his genuine curiosity, but it also showed colonialism-like extractivism in action. The BBC filmed in exotic locations around the world, where wild animals would be captured and transported to the London zoo. While Attenborough has since said the show's attitude would not be acceptable today, he also stopped short of acknowledging the post-war infrastructure of British cultural imperialism it benefited from.

The BBC and London Zoo were producing *Zoo Quest* for the metropolitan British public, using tropical countries as theatres of spectacle. What the show represented also mattered to the BBC's history as its attitudes were baked into the broadcaster's Natural History Unit and subsequent productions.

Attenborough's own (professional) longevity has exacerbated his flaws. Among others, the English journalist George Monbiot has criticised Attenborough for saying almost nothing about the ecological catastrophe intensifying around him for decades. At various points in his career, Attenborough was feted for showcasing the beauty of the natural world – but which he often framed in a way to make it seem pristine, untouched by the difficult realities of ecological decline and the human hand in it. For reasons including the BBC's longstanding aversion to advocacy and his personal temperament, Attenborough chose aesthetics over the politics of harm. He told *The Guardian* in 2019 that he made "natural history programs not because I was a rampaging proselytizer preaching about conservation" but because he liked "looking at animals and seeing what they do". But the thing with being the voice of the planet, so to speak, is that what you do not talk about can become what does not merit being talked about, and eventually what is not real.

Of people and tigers

The BBC Natural History Unit for a long time presented the natural world as a space apart from the one humans lived in and shaped. This idea is closely related to fortress conservation – a conservation paradigm that, in India and elsewhere, has been inhumane to Indigenous peoples and communities that depend on forests for their survival.

Among other 'features', fortress conservation holds that natural parks and sanctuaries must be free of human presence. However, researchers, scholars, activists, and members of forest-dependent communities have repeatedly proved that this requirement is a myth. These communities have played an important role throughout history by protecting these forests. Yet governments and forest departments have been fond of fortress conservation because it confers the ability to conserve with the instruments of bureaucratic authority and territorial control, with guns if needed.

The idea also has a parallel in some western models of conservation, which believe the wilderness must be 'defended' against, even violently, by the people who live there – and in the case of shows like *Zoo Quest*, these people were often Africans and Asians. It does not brook the possibility, indeed reality, that national parks in Europe often have working farms and towns, partly because Attenborough's documentaries poured enormous ideological work, even if they did not intend to, into sustaining the myth of the pristine natural. As the anthropologist Zoe Todd has said, Attenborough has been guilty of presenting the Anthropocene as a world shorn of the violence against Indigenous peoples.

In one show, *Seven Worlds, One Planet*, Attenborough said India's tigers have it harder than ever to raise families. This is partly true and that makes his statement doubly irksome. Independent India did not massacre tens of thousands of tigers and push them to the brink of extinction – but the British Raj did. Today, India's tiger populations face fragmented habitats, poaching, dwindling prey, disease, conflicts with humans, and the ravenous appetite of crony capitalism for natural resources. But India has also been striving to conserve the animal, with tiger populations expanding considerably since independence. Attenborough painted an incomplete picture, giving the impression that what he was showing people was all of it. Just like that, the supposedly clueless people in India were to blame for the tiger's plight rather than the forebears of his viewers back home.

In fact, many Indigenous peoples today also want to use land in non-traditional ways, and the overall tigers-versus-tribals debate is much less straightforward today.

Problem focus

Attenborough has also patronised the U.K.-based Population Matters charity for years and in many of his documentaries has emphasised population growth as an important, or even the principal, driver of ecological distress. The focus on population remains disturbingly vital to this day, particularly among conservation philanthropists. Many neo-Malthusian assumptions among environmental NGOs and government agencies are also being deepened by climate migration and human demographic pressure on agricultural land. But despite repeated exhortations to the contrary, the world's population growth rate has been dropping since the early 1960s, shortly after Attenborough launched his career.

On the other hand, a recent report from Oxfam and the Stockholm Environment Institute found that in the 25 years from 1990, the world's richest 1% emitted twice as much carbon dioxide as the poorest 50%. Which should rank consumption patterns and the habits of industrialised societies far higher than population growth on the list of contributions to climate change. Yet Attenborough has not clarified this.

Such ideologies often stem from the notion that the populations of Commonwealth countries are growing 'too fast' today, thus moving blame away from the colonists. But as before, when Attenborough said "humans have overrun the world", he furthered a deleterious idea and amplified it to millions of people without the proper context, and it did even more harm as it entered an information landscape primed by the anxieties of far-right ecological nationalism.

To be sure, Attenborough is not an ecofascist – only that he has seemed to be unaware of the great effects of what he was and was not saying at any time. He has never professed any political views even though environmentalism is deeply political. He told *The Guardian* in the same interview that he wouldn't risk getting banned from the BBC. But when your voice is the most trusted on the subject of the natural universe, and when you decline to name colonialism as a historical cause of biodiversity loss, you implicitly exonerate it. When you insist on speaking to an undifferentiated humanity – rather than one aware that a farmer in the Congo has done much less to harm the earth than an investment banker in the U.S. – your false equivalence only serves power.

Public backlash against fortress conservation is gaining an increasingly risible momentum and is bound to prevail, especially in Africa and South Asia, where the lines between conservation and land-grabbing are becoming clearer.

Stopping at wonder

To be fair, these criticisms are not exclusive to Attenborough: they have become the pathologies of conservation practices that have only just begun to interrogate themselves in good faith. Even in 2021, 50 countries came together to commit to the '30 x 30' initiative, to protect 30% of land and the oceans by 2030. It drew enthusiastic support from Attenborough but vehement criticism from Indigenous rights organisations for paving the way for a new wave of dispossession in the name of conservation.

Protected areas around the world, rather than in the Global South alone, are what they are today thanks to millennia of human stewardship as well, in particular that of Indigenous peoples. Mistreating these peoples leads to biodiversity loss. It is that simple, yet many mainstream conservation circles still think this a radical position and instead prefer Attenborough's sanitised aesthetics.

None of this diminishes Attenborough's other achievements. It is impossible to overstate the importance of his bringing the wild into the living rooms of people who may otherwise have never imagined a coelacanth swimming through an indigo sea or the mesmerising dance of birds against a twilight sky. Even the grief he voiced in the latter part of his career about what the world had lost in his own lifetime seemed sincere and meaningful.

Many wildlife biologists and ecologists have anecdotes about how they were inspired to get into their fields after watching Attenborough's documentaries. And they may have gone on to ask the questions that he never did. However, there is no reason to believe the vast majority of Attenborough's viewers were prodded in the same direction.

The author is grateful to conservation biologist Neha Sinha for her feedback.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

S. Upendran

What is the meaning and origin of the idiom "skeleton in the cupboard"? (Sashidhara Nimbargi, Mysore)

The idiom, I understand, was popularised by the English novelist William Thackeray. The idiom itself is based on an earlier legend of a King trying to find someone who had no worries in the world. The story goes that a King wanted to find someone in his kingdom who was very happy; someone who didn't have problems of any kind. He sent many people from his court to find such a person. After a lot of searching, they found a lady who seemed to fit the description. When she was informed that she had been chosen as the one person in the entire kingdom who didn't have any problems, she took the men upstairs and opened a cupboard. Inside, there was a skeleton. She informed the men that the skeleton was that of her lover's. He had been killed by her husband in a duel. "I try", she says, "to keep my trouble to myself, but every night my husband compels me to kiss that skeleton."

When you say that you have a "skeleton in the cupboard" (or "closet", as the Americans call it), it means that something happened in the past which you and your family is trying to keep a secret. You and your family members are keeping the matter hidden because it is a great source of shame. Here is an example"

The local politician assured us there were no skeletons in the cupboard.

Is the following sentence correct? "...it should be the prerogative of the Government to decide from which branch the Secretary should come from."? (C. Selvamani, Bangalore)

The word "from" has been used twice, it should have been used only once. You could either say: ...from which branch the Secretary should come, or ...which branch the Secretary should come from.

What is the leather patch that is put around the eyes of a horse called? (K. S. Natrajan, Madurai)

The leather patches are called "blinkers". When these patches are fixed beside the horse's eyes, the animal is forced to look straight ahead; it cannot see what is happening at the sides. When you say that an individual wears blinkers, it means he has a limited view of something. He doesn't completely understand or know all aspects of a situation. Here are a few examples.

Satish prefers not to know about his friend's drug problems. He wears blinkers when it comes to that.

Mohan has blinkers on when it comes to politics.

Why do we call the front room of a house the "drawing room"? (Cedric Charles, Coimbatore)

In the old days, when guests were invited to dinner, the host and the guests had dinner in the dining room. Once dinner was over, the men remained in this room to have cigars and drinks. The ladies, on the other hand, withdrew to another room. The room that they went to was called the "withdrawing room". This was later shortened to "drawing room". So, the drawing room was actually a place which ladies retired to, so that men could smoke, drink, and presumably crack dirty jokes.

Published in The Hindu on July 25, 2000

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On May 7, 2025, cardinals gathered for the conclave that elected Pope Leo XIV, reviving global fascination with one of the world's oldest and most secretive electoral traditions.

Prathmesh Kher

QUESTION 1
In which famous Vatican chapel is the conclave held?

QUESTION 2
What colour smoke signals that a new pope has been elected?

QUESTION 3
What title is given to the period when the papal throne is vacant?

QUESTION 4
What famous Latin announcement declares the election of a new pope?

QUESTION 5
What is the official residence where cardinals stay during a conclave?

Visual question: The present papal coat of arms bears the Latin motto "*In Illo uno unum*". What does this expression mean in English? PUBLIC DOMAIN

Questions and answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The first inauguration of _____ as President of the largest country in the world (as per land area) took place on this day in 2000. **Ans: Vladimir Putin**

2. The birthday of an Indian polymath who wrote and composed the national anthems of two countries, possibly influenced a third as well. **Ans: Rabindranath Thakur**

3. Started as a radio repair business, this modest firm went on to pioneer major innovations in consumer electronics. Today, it is a multinational conglomerate involved in films, robotics, video games, finance and much more. Name the iconic Japanese company established in 1946. **Ans: Sony**

4. On May 7, 1954, French forces were defeated by Vietnamese troops at Dien Bien Phu. The battle was part of this war. **Ans: First Indochina War**

5. This famous composer premiered his Ninth Symphony in Vienna on May 7, 1824. The performance was conducted by Michael Umlauf because of concerns about the composer's severe hearing loss. **Ans: Ludwig van Beethoven**

6. Nazi Germany signed an unconditional surrender on May 8, 1945, bringing the Second World War in Europe to an end. However, an earlier surrender document signed the previous day was rejected by the Soviet Union for this reason. **Ans: Because it was signed by a relatively low-ranking German officer and took place in France. The Soviets wanted a formal signing by a leading German general in capital Berlin**

7. On May 7, 1999, the U.S.-led NATO accidentally bombed the embassy of this country in Belgrade during the Kosovo conflict. **Ans: China**

8. This parliamentary confrontation beginning May 7, 1940, directly led to Winston Churchill replacing Neville Chamberlain as Britain Prime Minister. **Ans: The Norway debate**

Visual: Heads of key neutralist nations of the Non-Aligned Movement at a meeting in 1960. Identify the leader on the far right, who was born on May 7, 1892. **Ans: Josip Broz Tito**

Early birds: Sudhir Thapa | Pulkit Sathe | Dodo Jayaditya | Prem Nath Tiwari| Sonali Das

Word of the day

Palpable:
so intense as to be almost touched or felt

Synonym: tangible

Usage: *The grief in the village was palpable after the tragedy.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/ScdNO2/palpable

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈpælpəbəl/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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Honourable Minister for Higher Education, Government of Karnataka

Engineering

Dr Venugopal K R
Former Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University

Medicine

Balakrishna Shetty
MBBS, MD, DNB, MD (USA)
Vice Chancellor,
Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth,
Puducherry,

CET Nodal

Mr Islauddin Gadyal
KAS - Administrative Officer
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Tech capital tops India's cybercrime charts: NCRB

Of the 20,587 cybercrimes reported from 19 metros in 2024, 17,561 cases were from Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru, the tech capital of India, tops the list of metropolitan cities in reported cybercrime cases, as per the latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data.

According to the Crime in India 2024 report published by NCRB, of the total 20,587 cybercrimes reported in 2024 from 19 metros in the country, 17,561 cases were from Bengaluru.

While marginally lower than the 17,631 cases reported in 2023, it was still a significant jump from the 9,940 cases reported in 2022.

The city also registered an alarming cybercrime rate of 206.6 crimes per one lakh population, the highest among all metro cities. On the other hand, the chargesheeting rate remained at 24.2%, one of the lowest among all the 19 metropolitan cities considered and lower than other cities such as Delhi and Chennai.

Online impersonation

Among the types of cybercrimes recorded in the city, the highest number of cases were registered under 'cheating by personation using computer resources', i.e., online impersonation fraud. As many as 16,657 such cases were registered from the city, pushing the total number of similar cases across all metros to 18,131. This comes at a time when an increasing number of 'digital arrest' frauds are being reported from across the country.

A cybercrime rate of 206.6 crimes per one lakh population was recorded in the city.
GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Low conviction rate

The data shows that despite the high number of reported cybercrime cases in the city, only a minuscule portion of them result in convictions. While 5,431 cybercrime cases came up for trial before the court in 2024, only three resulted in convictions. As many as 45 cases ended in acquittals, while 3,640 were disposed of without trial. The conviction rate stood at a mere 6.3%, among the lowest recorded across metros.

With reference to law enforcement, the total number of cybercrime cases under investigation stood at 31,745 (including those pending from previous years), while 18,843 cases were disposed of by the police. The chargesheeting rate was recorded at 24.2%, lower than that of counterparts such as Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata.

Karnataka

Among Indian States and Union Territories, Karnataka recorded the second-highest number of cybercrime cases, behind only Telangana. Although the State recorded 21,993 cybercrimes in 2024, this marks a marginal drop from the figures in 2023 and a significant drop from the cases in 2022.

With a cybercrime rate of 32.2 per one lakh population, the State, however, treads well above the national average of 7.3. Despite recording the second-highest number of cybercrime cases, Karnataka's chargesheeting rate stood at only 22.1%

Marking another grim reality, the State reported the highest number of cybercrimes against women. Of the 18,615 cybercrimes against women nationally, 6,325 were reported from Karnataka. As many as 96 cases of cybercrimes against children were also reported from the State.

The motive for the majority of cybercrimes from the State as well as the city was reported as 'fraud.' The other prominent motives included extortion, sexual exploitation, and even 'developing own business.'

The numbers

Cybercrime cases in Bengaluru

- Total number of cybercrimes: **17,561**
- Cybercrime rate: **206.6 crimes** per one lakh population
- Chargesheeting rate: **24.2%**
- Number of online impersonation fraud cases: **16,657**

Cybercrime cases disposed of

- Disposed of by police: **18,843**
- Disposed of by courts: **3,688**
- Disposed of without trial: **3,640**
- Convicted: **3**
- Acquitted: **45**

Cybercrime cases in Karnataka

- Total number of cybercrimes: **21,993**
- Cybercrimes against women: **6,325**
- Cybercrimes against children: **96**

All figures are for 2024, as per NCRB data.

Crime rate decreases in State; rate of violent crimes up in 2024

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The crime rate in Karnataka saw a marginal decline in 2024 compared to 2023, according to data released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on Wednesday. Bengaluru, too, recorded a drop in crime rate. However, it remains marginally higher than the number of cognisable crimes registered in 2022.

However, the rate of violent crimes in the State and Bengaluru has gone up, data indicates. NCRB clubs rape, attempt to rape, foeticide, infanticide, dowry deaths, murder, culpable homicide, attempt to murder, attempt to culpable homicide, hurt, kidnapping and abduction, rioting, robbery, dacoity and arson as violent crimes.

A senior police official said that the data indicated that the most violent crimes like murder and abduction had come down, and rape cases remained high due to cases being registered in cases of minor elopement.

"Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, came into force midway through 2024. Certain definitions changed. This could have led to some distortion of data, and it will be difficult to compare data from 2023 and 2024," he said. NCRB data shows the chargesheeting rate is low in the State, particularly in Bengaluru. It is pegged at 72.9% for the State and 54.4% in Bengaluru, which means in just over half of the cases registered in Bengaluru, chargesheets were filed.

Fact sheet

	2022	2023	2024	Rate of crime* in 2024 (%)	Chargesheeting rate in 2024 (%)
Total crimes (Karnataka)	1,80,742	2,14,234	1,98,331	290.6	72.9
Violent crimes ** (Karnataka)	17,091	17,902	31,223	45.7	79.5
Total crimes (Bengaluru)	46,187	68,520	57,555	677.2	54.4
Violent crimes (Bengaluru)	2,769	3,528	5,612	66	68.6

*Rate of crime is calculated as number of crimes per one lakh population

**Violent crimes include rape, attempt to rape, foeticide, infanticide, dowry deaths, murder, culpable homicide, attempt to murder, attempt to culpable homicide, hurt, kidnapping and abduction, rioting, robbery, dacoity, and arson

Bengaluru records highest suicide rate in the country

Suicide rates across metros (2022-2024)

Metric	Bengaluru	Delhi	Mumbai	Chennai	Hyderabad
Population 2022 (lakhs)	114.1	315.0	207.0	118.0	107.0
Suicide cases 2022	2,313	3,064	1,392	1,481	1,204
Suicide rate 2022	20.3	9.7	6.7	12.5	11.3
Population 2023 (lakhs)	117.5	321.0	209.0	120.0	110.0
Suicide cases 2023	2,370	3,131	1,415	1,529	1,266
Suicide rate 2023	20.2	9.8	6.8	12.7	11.5
Population 2024 (lakhs)	121.0	327.0	212.0	122.0	113.0
Suicide cases 2024	2,403	3,204	1,447	1,562	1,311
Suicide rate 2024	19.9	9.8	6.8	12.8	11.6

Source: NCRB ADSI 2022–2024 city suicide tables and Census-based population projections used for suicide-rate calculations.

Key takeaway: Bengaluru's suicide rate is about double of Delhi's, nearly three times of Mumbai, and significantly higher than that of Chennai and Hyderabad.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru has recorded the country's highest suicide rate among major metros.

According to the National Crime Records Bureau's Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India (ADSI) reports, Bengaluru recorded over 2,313 suicides in 2022, 2370 in 2023 and 2430 in 2024, with the city's suicide rate remaining close to 20 per lakh population through the three-year period.

Delhi reported higher absolute suicide numbers, crossing 3,204 cases in 2024, but its suicide rate remained far lower – 9.8 – because of its much larger population base.

Mumbai's suicide rate stayed below 7 per lakh population, with 1447 suicidal deaths, while Chennai had 1562 and Hyderabad had 1311 deaths in 2024, with suicide rates of 12.8 and 11.6, respectively.

The State's suicide count continued to rise between 2022 and 2024, with Bengaluru accounting for a large share of deaths

The Karnataka picture is equally worrying. The State's overall suicide count continued to rise between 2022 and 2024, with Bengaluru alone accounting for a disproportionately large share of deaths. Mental health experts have repeatedly linked urban suicides to isolation, work pressure, migration stress, rising living costs and weakening social support systems – all increasingly associated with Bengaluru's rapid urban expansion.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN at 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help.)

From Page One

City sees second highest crimes against women

Bengaluru crime trends

Crime category	2022	2023	2024
Forgery / Financial manipulation	121	149	177
Economic offences	2,438	2,917	3,417
Violent crimes	3,421	3,655	3,896
Crimes against women	7,081	7,412	7,698

Source: National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 2022–2024

Crimes against senior citizens in Bengaluru continued to rise gradually, with 660 cases recorded in 2024 compared to 649 in 2023 and 458 in 2022. The city police have launched many initiatives to ensure the safety of senior citizens, including the Mane Manege Police and directions to the beat police to monitor senior citizens living in their area of operation.

The report also highlighted a decline in juvenile crime in the city. Cases involving juveniles in conflict with the law dropped to 386 in 2024 from 427 in 2023.

The city continued to report one of the highest volumes of crimes against women among India's major cities in 2024, even as overall numbers showed a marginal decline from the previous year. The city recorded 4,748 cases of crimes against women in 2024, compared to 4,870 in 2023, but still second only to Delhi among metropolitan centres.

Bengaluru's crime rate stood at 117 cases per lakh population – significantly higher than Mumbai's 74.6 and Chennai's 25.4.

Cruelty by husbands or relatives remained the single largest category, accounting for 897 cases.

Bengaluru also recorded 180 cases of assault on women with intent to outrage modesty, 168 rape cases, and 109 kidnapping and abduction cases involving women.

The NCRB data also points to mounting concern over crimes involving children.

Bengaluru registered 2,026 crimes against children in 2024, up from 1,982 in 2023 and 1,578 in 2022 – a steady three-year rise.

Among India's metropolitan cities, only Delhi and Mumbai reported higher numbers. This, according to a senior police officer, is also due to rising awareness among the members of general public to report incidents. But the low chargesheeting rate in child crime cases remains a concern. Bengaluru's rate stood at just 37%, below Chennai's 96 % and Kolkata's 99.6 %.

Accident numbers down, 17 linked to negligence by civic bodies; Bengaluru tops pedestrian deaths

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The number of accidents in the State, and Bengaluru in particular, saw a decline in 2024, compared to the previous year, data released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for 2024 shows.

Accidents have reduced by 0.9% in the State and by 4.2% in Bengaluru compared to 2023. Karnataka reported 43,062 accidents, leaving 52,591 injured and 12,390 dead. Meanwhile, Bengaluru reported 4,769 accidents, leaving 4,022 injured and 894 dead.

Of these accidents in Bengaluru, 4,285 accidents involved overspeeding, leaving 3,609 injured and 776 dead; 204 were hit-and-run accidents, killing 214. Data pegs accidents due to drunk driving at 129, leaving 45 dead in the city.

Bengaluru reported 17 cases in which accidents were caused due to the negligence of civic bodies. Only Bengaluru and Delhi have been registering such negligence cases, while other cities do not. Delhi recorded five cases in 2024. In Bengaluru, the number of such cases fell from 20 in 2023 to 17 in 2024. These incidents largely relate to road accidents caused by potholes, poor road stretches, and roads being dug up.

Like last year, Bengaluru topped the list of pedestrian deaths among mega cities in India in 2024 as well. However, the number of pedestrian deaths came down from 292 in 2023 to 246 in 2024. A senior official who was with the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) in 2024 said the BTP, in collaboration with the erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), made some pointed interventions in 2024 which reduced accidents. "We put up barricades, high medians on several road stretches to mitigate human-vehicle conflict. We made a list of several accident blackspots. BBMP resolved many of these blackspots with pointed interventions. We also introduced an 80 kmph speed limit on the International Airport Road and NICE Road, both high accident prone zones. All these measures may have contributed to a reduction in the number of accidents," he said.

Road accidents

	2023	2024	Variance	Injured in 2024	Dead in 2024
Karnataka	43,439	43,062	-0.9%	52,591	12,390
Bengaluru	4,980	4,769	-4.2%	4,022	894

Driver held for molesting neighbour, attacking couple

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 40-year-old car driver was arrested by the Shankarpuram police for allegedly molesting his neighbour and later attacking her and her husband with a machete on Monday.

According to the complaint filed by Nandish, he, his wife, and their two children were staying in the accommodation provided by their employer. The accused, Puttaraju, and his wife occupied another portion on the same premises.

The police said the accused had allegedly been harassing the woman for several months. Around two months ago, while she was washing dishes outside the house, he allegedly sexually harassed her. Though Nandish had repeatedly warned him against such behaviour, the harassment allegedly continued.

The latest incident took place on Monday around 8.35 p.m., when the woman was again washing dishes outside the house. Nandish allegedly noticed Puttaraju standing near his doorway, making inappropriate gestures towards her, leading to a heated argument between the two men.

Puttaraju allegedly went inside his house, picked up a dosa pan and assaulted Nandish on the head. The fight later spilled into the passage area of the house, where the accused allegedly snatched a machete from Nandish and attacked him on the hand, causing severe bleeding. He also allegedly threatened to kill him. Hearing the commotion, the couple's children and the house owner rushed to their aid. The injured man was taken to a nearby hospital for treatment. After being discharged on Tuesday, Nandish approached the police and lodged a complaint.

Based on the complaint, the Shankarpuram police arrested the accused under Sections 109 (attempt to murder), 78 (stalking or harassment of a woman), 351(2) (criminal intimidation), and 352 (intentional insult or provocation leading to breach of peace) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

Farmer claims identity theft led to wrongful murder case link

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 36-year-old farmer from Hoskote has filed a complaint with the Varthur police alleging that his voter ID card was misused by an unidentified person to fraudulently obtain a SIM card, which later surfaced during the investigation of a murder case registered two years ago.

The complainant, identified as L.S. Puneeth, said he was summoned by Varthur police after call detail records connected the mobile number to a murder investigation reported in September 2024. Puneeth appeared before police officials and clarified that he had no connection to the SIM card or the crime and that he had been wrongly implicated.

According to the complaint, an unknown individual allegedly forged Puneeth's voter ID card by replacing the original photograph with another image and used the document to obtain a SIM card from a mobile store on Sarjapura Main Road.

The police reportedly called Puneeth to appear before the Assistant Commissioner of Police's office on May 2, and after detailed questioning and cross-checks, the police gave him a clean chit.

Puneeth stated that he is a farmer educated up to class 9 and has been residing in Hoskote. He maintained that he had never applied for or used the disputed SIM card.

The SIM card allegedly surfaced during an investigation into a murder case registered.

According to police records, the body of an unidentified man aged around 30 to 35 years was found near a roadside area under the Bagalur Police Station limits on September 18, 2024. The victim had sustained multiple stab injuries and signs of assault.

Subsequent investigation identified the deceased as Revant Kumar, 23, a resident of Bengaluru. The case was transferred to the Varthur police. They later arrested multiple accused persons in connection with the murder.

'Adopt a Monument' sees muted response

A. Devaraju, Commissioner, Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage (DAMH), acknowledged the challenges and said publicity for the initiative has not been adequate.

"The gap has been mainly about working on preparing more detailed development plans and improving outreach to attract organisations, particularly those willing to invest CSR funds," he said.

According to the DAMH, the cost of adopting a monument is about ₹50 lakh for three years.

This includes providing basic visitor infrastructure, based on estimates prepared using a toolkit developed by the Indian Institute of Architects (IIA), Karnataka Chapter.

Under the scheme, selected applicants – Smaraka Mitra – are entrusted with developing, upgrading and maintaining visitor facilities at the site.

The agreement is initially for at least five years and is subject to regular monitoring and review by the department.

Up for adoption

Of the monuments currently up for adoption, temples account for the largest share at 534, followed by 100 archaeological sites, 45 forts, and 16 tombs, among other sites.

NHAI plans WSAs on NH-48 to tackle driver fatigue, improve safety

They are being planned on Belagavi-Kolhapur, Tumakuru-Chitradurga, and other corridors

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

The move is aimed at providing safe and convenient rest points for motorists, particularly long-distance drivers who often struggle to find proper facilities during their journeys. FILE PHOTO

In response to growing concerns over road accidents caused by driver fatigue and drowsiness, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has initiated steps to improve roadside infrastructure by planning the development of Wayside Amenities (WSAs) along key highway stretches in Karnataka.

According to NHAI officials, the move is aimed at providing safe and convenient rest points for motorists, particularly long-distance drivers who often struggle to find proper facilities during their journeys.

The project is being undertaken through NHAI's wholly owned special purpose unit, National Highways Logistics Management Limited, which has recently invited Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for the development, operation, and management of WSAs on private land. These facilities are planned along strategic sections of National Highway 48, including the Belagavi-Kolhapur, Tumakuru-Chitradurga, and Chitradurga-Hubli corridors.

Commuter convenience

According to officials, the initiative is part of the broader vision of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to strengthen roadside infrastructure and enhance travel comfort and safety. "The identified locations fall under the jurisdiction of the Bengaluru Regional Office and have been selected based on traffic density, logistics importance, and the need for improved commuter convenience," a senior NHAI official told *The Hindu*.

The proposed Wayside Amenities are expected to offer a range of facilities, including fuel stations, designated rest areas, food courts, clean restrooms, parking spaces for both light and heavy vehicles, and other essential services. Officials said that the integration of these facilities at a single location would significantly improve accessibility for drivers, reducing the need to stop at multiple places along the highway.

Helps road safety

Experts said that the lack of proper rest stops has been a contributing factor in highway accidents across the country. "Long hours of uninterrupted driving can lead to fatigue, slower reaction times, and impaired judgment, increasing the risk of mishaps. Authorities should encourage drivers to take breaks by providing well-equipped rest areas at regular intervals, thereby enhancing overall road safety," transport expert M.N. Srihari told *The Hindu*.

"Apart from safety, the initiative also boosts economic activity along transport corridors. The development of WSAs on private land through public-private partnerships is likely to generate employment opportunities, support local businesses, and create a more organised highway ecosystem," Mr. Srihari added.

Frequent highway users have welcomed the move, highlighting the challenges they currently face.

Jayakumar S., a senior citizen who recently travelled from Bengaluru to Chitradurga with his family, said the absence of proper rest stops made the journey uncomfortable. "Sitting in the car for long hours was difficult. I wanted to step out and stretch, but with vehicles speeding past, it was not safe. Even for basic needs, we had to depend on roadside restaurants. In many foreign countries, there are well-maintained motels and rest areas like wayside amenities where families can comfortably take a break. Such facilities on our highways would make travel much easier. However, proper maintenance would be key," he said.

HC pulls up KKRTC for misleading stance in accident case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Emphasising the need for fairness in conduct of litigation by a public authority, the High Court has pulled up the Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC) for "attempting to mislead the court by withholding crucial facts." The court also imposed imposed a cost of ₹25,000 while refraining from imposing exemplary cost for the misconduct.

A Division Bench comprising Justice Suraj Govindaraj and Justice Chillakur Sumalatha passed the order while dismissing an appeal filed by the KKRTC challenging a compensation of ₹1.10 crore awarded by the Motor Accident Claim Tribunal, Kalaburagi, to the family of a deceased passenger, Vinod Kumar Mane, who had died on falling from the moving bus. He was working as a first division assistant in the Revenue Department of the State government at Sedam.

The corporation's primary argument was that the deceased himself was negligent, as he was standing at the rear doorway of the bus despite empty seats being available, and therefore the KKRTC was not liable.

However, upon scrutinising the internal records of the corporation, which were summoned during hearing, the Bench discovered a stark contradiction. The corporation's internal documents revealed that it had conducted disciplinary proceedings against the driver and the conductor of the bus with respect to the accident. Thus, the bus driver, who was appointed on contract basis, was removed from service, and the conductor was penalised with a permanent withholding of one annual increment holding them responsible for the accident.

Interestingly, the tribunal had noted that the police, after the investigation, had filed a chargesheet against the bus driver alleging that the driver drove the bus at a high speed, rashly and negligently, without closing the door, and took a left cut, causing Vinod Kumar to fall onto the road causing grievous injuries, and later died during treatment.

The Bench noted that though the disciplinary actions were taken in 2023-2024, the corporation filed the appeal against tribunal's order in 2025 without disclosing these facts to the tribunal or the High Court.

The corporation, having recorded a finding of culpability against the driver and the conductor in the disciplinary proceedings, cannot now be permitted to contend that the deceased himself was negligent, the court said.

The corporation, being an instrumentality of the State under the Constitution of India, has to adhere to a higher standard of fairness and consistency in judicial proceedings, it said.

Giraffe dies at BBP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A female giraffe, Shivani, died at the Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) on Thursday.

BBP said that the giraffe aged about three years and ten months had stopped eating since May 3.

"The best possible veterinary care was provided by the team of veterinarians. However, she did not respond to the treatment and eventually succumbed on Thursday," BBP said.

It added that a postmortem was conducted and the report reveals that the death was due to caecal torsion.

"Visceral samples have been collected and sent to the Institute of Animal Health and Veterinary Biologicals laboratory for further examination," it added.

The giraffe was moved to BBP from Mysuru zoo.

INTEREST IS INVITED FROM ARCHITECT FIRMS

Interest is invited from well established firm of Architects / Architect for design and support for an Office-cum-Commercial Building, conforming to regulations. Prime location in MG Road, Bengaluru with Ground area of 30,000 sq. ft.

Response is requested by 20 May 2026.

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Rowdy sheeter dies in police custody

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 45-year-old murder case accused died due to illness while in police custody in Mahalakshmipuram on Thursday.

The deceased has been identified as Manjunath, who was arrested by the Mahalakshmi Layout police on April 28 in connection with the murder of a woman who was alone to rob her valuables at her residence.

According to the police, Manjunath was suffering from acute pancreatic complications during questioning. While in custody, he complained of severe stomach pain from May 1 and was admitted to a hospital for treatment. As his condition deteriorated, he was later shifted to Victoria Hospital for advanced medical care.

The police said the accused was also suffering from liver-related ailments and diabetes. Despite treatment, he died at the hospital on May 3.

"It was not a custodial death per se. He succumbed to his prolonged illness, which aggravated while he was in custody," a senior police officer said.

Following the death, the Mahalakshmi Layout police registered an Unnatural Death Report case and initiated further proceedings.

LPG price hike, shortage hit wedding bookings; catering charges up

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Caterers say they are being forced to buy cylinders in the open market for over ₹8,000 — more than 50% above the regular price. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

The steep ₹993 hike in commercial LPG cylinder prices, coupled with a continuing supply shortage, has hit weddings and large-scale functions in Bengaluru. Caterers said they are being forced to buy cylinders in the open market for over ₹8,000 – more than 50% above the regular price. A commercial cylinder currently costs ₹3,152.

Caterers said the shortage has disrupted bookings, with several unable to take new orders, while others are asking families hosting weddings and events to arrange cylinders on their own. They said the increased costs have pushed up catering charges by at least ₹120 per plate. While catering rates generally range between ₹150 and ₹200 per plate, the shortage has also led to the catering industry cutting down menu options and reducing at least five to seven items.

Live food counters, which have become common at weddings and events, have been dropped by caterers as they require continuous heating and consume more gas.

Mahesh Reddy, a caterer, said he has scaled down bookings and is now limiting orders to events with fewer than 200 guests. He said there has been an acute shortage of commercial LPG cylinders since March, despite caterers paying higher prices. Several items, including vade, holige and poori, have been temporarily dropped from menus, and the variety of sambars served has also been reduced. "Anything that requires continuous flame or high heat has been removed for now," he said.

Janardhan P. of Jain Foods said he has stopped accepting fresh orders and is focusing only on events already booked. He said the price hike and supply shortage have affected both caterers and families, with most catering services cutting at least five to eight items from their planned menus. "A few bookings were taken when the commercial cylinder cost around ₹2,000 for weddings that are yet to take place. How much extra can we ask?" he asked.

Caterers said that while the Karnataka Marriage Halls Welfare Association has been helping coordinate cylinder availability and has even permitted the use of wood fire in some cases, it has become increasingly difficult to fulfil orders as planned. They said even after increasing per plate rates, the cost of procuring cylinders at current market prices remains difficult to absorb.

Pratesh Mehta, who booked catering for his brother's wedding in Jayanagar, said the caterer agreed to take the order only on the condition that the family arranged the cylinders. He said more than 20 cylinders would be required for the function, which is expected to host 600 guests. He added that while the family approached multiple caterers, some quoted rates beyond their budget, while others did not take the booking.

Police hold awareness session on mobile addiction

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a bid to improve work efficiency and address growing concerns over mobile phone addiction among police personnel, a batch of officers and staff from the North East Division of Bengaluru City Police underwent an awareness session on Thursday.

The session was led by Well-Being Officer Wazeera Begum, who explained the psychological, physical, and social effects caused by excessive smartphone usage.

Key issues discussed during the awareness programme included nomophobia, sleep disturbances, lack of concentration, anxiety, irritability, psychological stress, and phantom vibration sensation.

EDUCATION HUB

A Business Initiative

CMR University Brings Young Innovators Together to Turn Local Challenges into Global solutions at CAUSE 2026

Recently CMR University hosted its Global Open Innovation Challenge, at its Lakeside Campus in Bagalur as part of Design Thinking Day (Cause 2026). Under the theme "The Future is Local," the event encouraged students to create sustainable, community-driven solutions across areas like health, environment, infrastructure, and education. The valedictory ceremony was graced by Chief Guest Mr. Anwar Khan, Senior Director and Chief Architect at Capgemini, in the presence

of distinguished dignitaries. Dr. K. C. Ramamurthy, IPS (Retd.), Former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, and Chairman, CMR Group of Institutions & CMR University, in his presidential address, expressed pride in the innovative ideas presented by students from across the world. The challenge saw participation from over 3,500 students forming 893 teams from 120 institutions across 10 countries. More than 100 shortlisted projects showcased innovations such as AI tools for disabilities, disaster rescue systems, and smart infrastructure solutions. The event concluded with a valedictory ceremony attended by prominent dignitaries, and awards were given to top teams, including Nano Heel (National), Biota Backers (CMR), and Bohos Online from Germany (International).

Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences Hosts Two-Day Leadership Development Programme "IGNITE" in Mysuru

Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences (MSRUAS) held a two-day leadership programme, IGNITE (April 17-18, 2026), bringing together senior academic and administrative leaders to strengthen institutional strategy and future readiness. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. K. K. Raina, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor. The event featured addresses by top leadership and expert sessions from IIT Madras faculty on strategy, pedagogy, and team dynamics. It focused on innovation, decision-making, and collaborative leadership, reinforcing MSRUAS's commitment to becoming a forward-looking, value-driven institution.

Presidency University Hosts 'Industry Connect 2026,' Attracts Leading Corporates

The Presidency School of Computer Science and Engineering hosted "Industry Connect 2026: Campus to Corporate," a week-long program where 1,200+ students engaged with top companies like Infosys, IBM, and TCS to build employability and industry-ready skills. Additionally, the university organized four national hackathons attracting 1,500+ students from 400 teams, offering real-world challenges and awarding ₹3.5

lakh in prizes. The initiatives aimed to enhance career readiness and were conducted under the guidance of university leadership. The multiple activities were held in the campus under the guidance of Dr. S.J. Thiruvengadam-Vice Chancellor and executed by Dr.Siva Perumal- Pro Vice Chancellor and Dr.Shakkeera L-Associate Dean, School of CSE (Specialization Division).

Dr. ACS College of Engineering hosted its grand Annual Day extravaganza, "Aarohana - 2026"

Dr. ACS College of Engineering celebrated its Annual Day, "Aarohana - 2026," recently at the ACS Convention Centre with vibrant cultural performances, a standout fashion show, and student award felicitation. The celebration was presided over by the esteemed leadership of the institution including Chairman Dr A C Shanmugam along with other distinguished dignitaries whose presence added prestige to the occasion. The event was graced by institutional leaders and chief guest actress Ragini Dwivedi, who inspired students. Showcasing creativity, talent, and teamwork, the celebration highlighted the college's commitment to holistic development and concluded as a memorable, spirited occasion.

Excellent ICSE and ISE Results at National Academy for Learning (NAFL), Basaveshwarnagar, Bengaluru

National Academy for Learning (NAFL), Basaveshwarnagar, Bengaluru, has recorded excellent results in both the ICSE and ISC 2025-26 Examinations. 11 students secured centums (100%), and 13 students scored 99% in the ICSE Examination, while 7 students secured centums in the ISC Examinations. Dr. Bindu Hari, Vice Chairperson, NAFL, TISB and NPS Educational Institutions, believes excellence in results denotes nurturing leadership, creative classroom practices and academic rigour. "NAFL epitomises holistic growth. At the heart of NAFL's true success are inspired teachers and motivated learners. Our enquiry-based, active learning environments encourage students to grow into curious, research-based problem solvers," she added. For more information, reach out to Radha on mail radha@npsedu.com

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Ayyapa Nagar Branch: Ground Floor 59, 2nd Cross Ayyappa Nagar, Bangalore- 560036.					
2	1031	Vinay G	Brindavan 19 13th Cross Sri Vinayaka Temple Devsandra, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560036	1,07,973/-	12-Aug-20
Banashakari Branch: No.566 & 567, 30th Main Road, Katriguppe, Banashankari 3rd Stage, (Next To Mega Mart), Bangalore 560070, Karnataka					
3	52	Sneharaj	68, 1st Main Road, Vivekananda Nagar Kathrigup Pe Banashankari 3rd Stage Next To Cauvery Sch Ool, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560085	33,839.44	31-Oct-19
4	260	Sathyanarayana Murthy	1101 Horsemint Drive Little Elm, United States Of America, 75068	0	24-Apr-25
5	300	Swathi K R	Flat T2, H.No, 1296 14th Cross, Girinagar 2nd Phase Near Sundar Mahal Choultry, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560085	0	24-Apr-25
6	255	Smitha Naveen	# 1611, 35th Cross, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560070	28,694.44	11-Jun-20
7	78	S S Kirankumar	Brooklawn Gdns 705 Solook Drive, United States Of America, 08859	0	24-Apr-25
8	174	Bogisetty Sangameswar Babu	Flat No.305 Sri Sai Priya Residency J.P. Nagar 13th Cross Sarakki, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	1,07,257.50	25-Jul-19
9	221	Shivakumar Kenchanahalli Puttaswamy	2601 Classical Dr Argyle, Tx 76226-4143, United States Of America, 76226	0	24-Apr-25
10	216	Sathish Sadhasivam	S/o A.Sadhasivam 104 2nd Cross Banashankari 3rd Stage 5th Block Bangalore South Bangalore South Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560085	0	24-Apr-25
11	31	Dharmendra Sundara Babu	No 34 2nd Cross Raghavendra Layout Gubbalalu Subramanyapura Bangalore South, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560081	23,339.44	03-Jun-21
12	226	Latha Srinivasa	0	0	24-Apr-25
13	124	Narendra Kumar Bhutra	D No 707 22nd Cr 19th Main 2nd Stage Banashankari, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560070	61,443.94	30-Apr-19
14	144	Shantala Hulikere Parvathaiah	Flat No 1208 C Block Brigade Omega Thurahalli Village Uttarahalli B S K 6th Stage Subramanyapura Bengaluru, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560061	0	25-Aug-25
15	26	P L Latha	#24, 2nd Main Rd Iti Lyt Mallathahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560056	33,839.44	15-May-19
16	41	Karthik Raj S	Flat No 304 Msquare Heights Apartment Dattatreyanagara, Hosakerahalli Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560085	23,339.44	23-Dec-21
Banaswadi Branch: No.307, Hrbr Layout, 1st Block, 100 Feet Road Banaswadi, Bengalutu- 560043					
17	1	Arun Kumar S	No 14/2, 2nd Main 1st Floor Munireddy Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560043	32,408.64	11-Jun-20
Bangalore Main Branch: No. 9, M. G. Road, Block A, Bangalore 560001					
18	43	Saraswati Waghre	C 231 Jalvayu Vihar Kamanahalli Main Road Banglore Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560043	33,839.44	28-Feb-20
19	9686	Tajuddin Zainudheen	P O Box 50673, Ramesh Hira Llc, Dip Phase-2, United Arab Emirates, 000000	49,162.50	23-Aug-21
20	9569	Lathika Nambiar	Thapasya, Thillery, Kannur P O, Kannur, Kannur, Kerala, India, 670001	37,412.80	23-Apr-19
21	9583	Surabhi Prasanna	A 104 Zen Gardens No 6 Artillery Road Ulsoor Police Station Halasuru Jeevan Kendra Po Hall Ii Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560008	0	23-Apr-25
22	9668	Ujwala M	House Number 320 17th Main Road 14th B Cross Hsr Layout Sector-4 Hsr Layout Bengaluru City - Bengaluru, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560102	0	24-Apr-25
23	9629	Arif Pasha	No 258 Lakshmnidevi Nagar 2nd Block Kudur Ramanagar 561101, Ramanagara, Karnataka, India, 561201	0	24-Apr-25
24	340	Taji George	# A-1 Arphi Apartment No-2 Leonard Lane, Richmond Town Bengaluru, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560025	1,16,591.33	17-Dec-18
25	8035	Sulaiman Shariff	No 87 Arunachalam Mudaliar Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560051	33,975.65	26-Jul-23
26	9507	Rema Baindur	#544, 1st Floor, 16th Cross, 2nd Stage Indiranagar, Bangalore, Indiranagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560038	1,08,251.70	12-Jun-20
27	87	Adithyan Shayan	A1001 Salarpuria Sativa Magnificia Dooravaninagar Near Tin Factory Bus Stand Kr Puram Vtc Doorvaninagar City Bengaluru, Ban, Karnataka, India, 560016	0	23-May-25
28	9544	Meera Chandrashekhar	New No.123, Old No.10/2, 1st Main, 5th Crs, Sai Krupa, Jayanagar, 1st Block East, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560011	0	24-Apr-25
29	333	Valtech India Systems Private Limited	Amit M Sheth Valtech India Systems Pvt Ltd No 30/A 1st Main Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	0	24-Apr-25
30	293	Dazzle Buildwell Pvt Ltd	S - 183, Panchshila Park, New Delhi, Delhi, India, 110017	62,707.50	12-Jun-20
31	184	Saurabh Sharma	H No. 32, Nanda Gokula, I Cross, A Block, Vinayak Nagar, Konena Agrahara, Old Airport Rd, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560017	6,041.51	24-Jul-24
32	285	24/7 Customer Pvt. Ltd.	N K Ahuja, Umapathy V Embassy Golf Links Busi Park Survey 2/1 2/2 2/3 5/1 Challaghatta Vill, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560071	1,16,795.44	03-Jun-21
33	9755	Raju S Monga	Godrej Woodsman Estate Apt No A1403 Alder A, Tower 4, Hafarm Post Kempapura Main Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560024	1,34,074.63	15-May-19
34	8022	Muthuraman Karthik	1st Cross Street No 3 Kasturiranga Rd Alwarpet, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, 600018	1,71,698.68	07-Jul-21
35	192	Prashant Kumar Srivastava	A-703, Sumadhura Nandanam K R Puram, Hobli, Hoodi ., Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560048	0	23-May-25
36	9573	Anamika Gupta	C 3 Brigmton Court No 05 Anna Swamy Mudalier Road Ulsoor Bangalore North Near Ajanta Theatre, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560042	0	24-Apr-25
37	308	Arvind Loya	S O Balkrishan Loya 9 1 Gehlot Niva S 5th Cross Lakshmi Main Road Shnth I Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560027	62,707.50	24-Aug-20
38	253	Ranjit Reddy V	788 3rd Block 9th Main Hbr Layout Bangalore North Kalyananagar Bangalore Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560043	1,70,420.44	19-Oct-19
39	9513	Neepa Mehta	12 4th Cross Keshwapur Hubli Keshwapur Hubli, Hubballi, Karnataka, India, 580023	0	24-Apr-25
40	284	Meenakshi Bright Steel Bars Private Limited	Bhuwalka Landmark, No 5, Walker Lane [On Langford Road] Richmondtown, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560025	21,347.48	24-Apr-24
41	278	Biesse India Private Limited	Survey No 32 Khata No 469 Sondekoppa Road Jakkasandra Village Nelamangala Taluk Na Jakka Sandra, Bengaluru Rural, Karnataka, India, 562123	0	24-Apr-25
42	286	Ninth Dimension Hotels & Resorts Pvt Ltd	7e, D.D.K Industrial Area, 1st Phase, Itpl Road Mahadevapura, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560048	73,732.50	03-Jun-19
43	229	Murali Mallina	2440 Emily Brook Way Apex Nc 27523-8510 North Carolina, United States Of America, 27523-8510	0	24-Apr-25
Basavangudi Branch: Shubhasri Pride, No.41, South End Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560004					
44	1036	Ameera Rahim	No 127 6th Cross Teachers Colony 1st Stage Jp Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	38,118.40	07-Jan-19
Basaveshwarnagar Branch: 66, Karnataka Urban Housing Co-Operative Society Ltd, Basaveshwarnagar, Main Road Bangalore- 560079					
45	2073	Srinivas T	39 5th Cross Maruthi Nagar 11th M 5th Cross Maruthinagar Vrushabhavat Vijay Galaxy Apartment, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 56007918768	18,768/-	23-Aug-21
46	5143	Priya Hassan	No 40 D No 302 18th Cross 7th Main Malleshwaram, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560010	23370.75	11-Jun-20
47	5175	Mahipal	1st A Main 1st Cross Shivanagar Bangalore North Rajajinagar Bangalore North Rajajinagar Bangalore Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560010	0	24-Apr-25
48	2069	Asha Sheregar	No - 16 1st H Cross 8th Main Road S S Layout Basaveshwarnagarnear Mukesh Medicals, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560079	0	24-Apr-25
49	5169	Nayazuddin	No, 163, /A, 52, 5th Main Road 4th Block Rajajinagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560010	28,104.50	23-Apr-19
50	2065	Swaroop Gangolli	No. 1087, Elite Residency, Flat No. 301, 3rd Cross, Beml 5th Stage, Rr Nagar, Near Rashtrothana Hospital, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560098	0	24-Apr-25
Belandur Branch, Bangalore: A G R Plaza, No.-6/4, Ambalipura, Outer Ring Road, Belandur, Bangalore, Dist. Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560 103					
51	138	Simarjot Kaur	Flat No I 001 Rohan Iksha Apartments Sr No 123 And 230 Bhoganahalli Road Bhoganahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560103	0	24-Apr-25
52	90	Andra Lakshmi Soundarya	Flat No 303, Block A, Euphoria Corporate Leis Ure, Iblur Village Ure, Iblur Village, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560103	5,422.28	22-May-24
53	41	Rohit Natarajan	C502 Mantri Espana Marathahalli Ring Road Devarabeesanahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560103	0	24-Apr-25
54	44	Dayanand Vanjaku	523 A19th Main Serviceroadhsr Layout Sector 3 Bangalore, Banga, Karnataka, India, 560102	0	25-Aug-25
55	57	Arun Kumar Panda	Flat B 305, Mantri Elegance, Banerghatta Main Road, Bangalore South, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560076	28,686.57	22-Sep-20
Chamarajapet Branch: 59, Tulsi Krupa, Sri Puttannachetty Road, 5th Main, Chamarajpet, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560018					
56	5028	Jayashree V	37 6th Cross Vittal Nagar Chamarajpet, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560018	0	24-Apr-25
57	3017	Lakshmamma	#75/A 5th Cross Bhakta Markandeya Layout Mysore Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560026	88,816.53	22-Oct-21
58	2028	V Premraj Jain	#59/1 5th Main Tulasi Krupa Chamarajpet, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560018	61,443.94	23-Apr-19
59	4010	Donthi Satyam Balaji	11/2 Rangarao Road Opp To Keshav Krupa Shankarapuram Bangalore South Po Basavanagudi, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560004	0	24-Apr-25
60	1070	Rikhabchand J Bokadia	176/47-2 B/H Olyanpick Parsal Service, 5th Main Road, Chamraj Pet, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560018	61,443.94	06-Aug-19
61	2020	Manohar Kanungo	Flat No 102 1st Floor Panchajanya Apprts 3/4 Bull Temple Road Chamarajpet, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560018	70,199.05	23-Apr-19
Chandra Layout Branch: Ujjni Pegasus, Ground Floor, No:1557, 8th Cross, Chandra Layout, Bangalore-560040					
62	27	Bhagyashree B G	No 63 6th Main 7th Cross, Maruthinagar Nagarbhavi Ma In Roadbangalore North, Bengaluru, Nagarbhavi-, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560072	54,900/-	14-Feb-20
Chintamani Branch: No.2736/1 & 2585/1, N R Extension, Post Office Road, Chintamani, Dist. Chikkaballapura, Karnataka, Pin 563125					
63	76	Sudhamani S H	W/O S G Harinath # Ward No 10 Nr Badavane Chikkaballapur District, Chintamani, Karnataka, India, 563125	12,375/-	03-Jun-21
64	5	Manjunatha M	S/O Muniyappa O Anjani Layout Chintamani Pattan Chintamani ., Chintamani, Karnataka, India, 563125	0	24-Apr-25
65	109	B Sandyarani	Sree Nilaya, Bangalore Road, Anjani Layout, Near Anjani Theatre, Chikkaballapur, Chintamani, Karnataka, India, 563125	15,562.50	11-Jun-20
66	117	B R Krishna Murthy	S/O K B Ramaiah Setty Ward 11 Venkateshwara Badavane Chintamani Chikkaballapur City Chintamani, Kolar, Karnataka, India, 563125	0	23-May-25
67	94	Karthik N	Govinda Nilaya, G N R Extension, 3 Rd Cross, Chikkaballapur, Chintamani, Karnataka, India, 563125	0	24-Apr-25
68	37	K S Rajesh	Hale Pete Behind H P S School, Ward No 23, Chikkaballapura, Karnataka, India, 563125	0	24-Apr-25
Cox Town, Bangalore Branch: Ground Floor, Prestige Lions Gate, Municipal No 6, Mosque Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore Pin Code-560065					
69	10002	Sameena Khalid	No 1258, 3rd Main Ambedkar Layout Kavalbyrasandra R T Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560032	0	13-Jun-25
70	4024	Justin Edward	No 66 2nd Cross Hutchins Road Bangalore North S T Thomas Town, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560084	19,354.50	03-Jun-21
71	6032	Chithradurga Jaffer Shariff Zahera Jabeen Sulthana	25/2 Old Bore Bank Road Benson Town, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560046	0	24-Apr-25
72	4013	Arun Samuel David	1/1 Mf Bda Flats 3rd Cross H A L 3rd Stage Bangalore North Bangalore North, Ban, Karnataka, India, 560075	0	23-May-25
73	3046	Mohd Zakria Irfan Kh	83, St Johns Church Street Coles Road, Shivajinagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560051	0	24-Apr-25
74	3025	Renuka Jethanand Fernandes	Edward House 37 Pottery Road Richards Town Bangalore North Bangalore Fraser Town Fraser Town, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560005	0	24-Apr-25
75	5018	Kauser Irum	No 29/1 Memorial Street Bharathinagar Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560001	0	24-Apr-25
76	11002	Atif Ulla Shariff	#8 Sanhita Enclave Flat No A 2 Step Hen Road Frazer Town Post, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560005	1,07,257.5	08-Nov-19
77	8031	Akhil Kumar Shetty	A704 R And S Lakeview Apartments St Anns Church Road Rachenahalli Bengaluru, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560077	0	24-Apr-25
78	7007	Zaheer Shariff	# 64 2nd Floor 1crs Hennur Main Road Lingapuram St Tomas Town, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560084	90,644.06	30-Mar-21
79	8010	Syed Abdul Shujath Pasha	No 124/7 St Johns Church Road Cleveland Town Po Fraser Town Dist Bangalore North Opp Santosh Diagnostic Center, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560005	42,693.94	03-Jun-21
80	9001	R Ajay Kumar	Flat No B-3 Sharada Apartment No34 Coles Road Frazer Town Frazer Town, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560005	1,33,635.13	15-May-19
81	5008	Syed Musaib Ahmed	No 23/1 Genises Grande 3rd Floor Tf 206 Benson A Cross Road Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560046	19,354.50	03-Jun-21
82	9009	Zaheer Shariff	# 64 2nd Floor 1crs Hennur Main Road Lingapuram St Tomas Town, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560084	65,488.50	03-Jun-22
83	4027	Raghavendra Narayan	921 Bukit Timah Road 02 04 The Cascadia Singapore, Singapore, 589624	0	24-Apr-25
84	6029	Sooraj Maridhyoda n Veetil	0	0	24-Apr-25
85	7008	Mohammed Haroon Shariff	1829 123rd Ave Se Wa 98005 4629, Bellevue, United States of America, 98005	0	24-Apr-25
Cunningham Road Branch, Bangalore: No.19/4, Sairbagh, Cunningham Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560052					
86	8	Ps Ayub	No 17 Mariyam Apartments T3 Cline Road, Near Ambedkar Dental College, Cooke Town, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560005	0	24-Apr-25
Dod Ballapur Branch: Door No.2573/1, 4 Th Ward, 'D' Cross Main Road, Rojipura, Dod Ballapur, Dist. Bangalore Rural, Karnataka, Pin 561203					
87	104	Gopal N	3928 4th Ward Gangadharapura Bangalore Rural Dodballapura Gangadharapura, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka, India, 561203	0	23-May-25
88	55	Lakshminarayana	S/O Ashuathppa Deva Raja Nagar Doddaballapur Taluku, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 561203	14,747.50	08-Apr-19
89	8	Nataraju K R	No 39 Kuntanahalli Aralumallige Pos Doddaballapur Tq Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 561203	10,582.50	25-Jun-20
90	82	H Byregowda	#6 Varadanahalli Doddaballapur Taluku, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 561203	0	24-Apr-25
91	103	Babu D	#71 7th Cross Shanthinagara Dargajogiha Lli Dodballapur Near Temple, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 561203	15,437.50	04-Mar-21
Electronic City Branch, Bangalore: Electronic City, Bangalore, H G Plaza, No/223/A, Konappana Agrahara, Electronic City, Bangalore - 560 100, Karnataka					
92	141	Bharat Kapoor	S/O: Suresh Kapoor Flat No-242, Sector-2 Bangalore South, Bengaluru, Hsr Layoutdsr Rainbow Height, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560102	38,062.60	22-Feb-21
93	6	Gayathri	61 Govindashetty Palya Bangalore South Govindashtti Palya Anekal Electronic City Post, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560100	98,081.47	03-Jul-20
94	90	Gautam Nath Mathur	109, Deshbandhu Apartments, South Delhi, Kalkaji, Kalkaji, New Delhi, Delhi, India, 110019	0	23-May-25
95	114	Anantha Kumar K	S/O Kh Krishna Reddy # 177/5 Konapanaagrahara Hosur Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560100	20,131.46	25-Jul-25
Hal Ii Stage Branch: No.01, Hal Ii Stage, Kodihalli, Opp. Leela Palace East Entrance, Old Airport Road, Hal Ii Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560008.					
96	11	M Krishnappa	#20 4th Cross Near Sri Rama Temple Chal Laghatta Bangalore North Dodanekkundi ., Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	42,693.94	03-Jun-21
Haralur Road Branch: Survey No.23, Haralur Road, Ambalipura, Bangalore-560102					
97	1003	Genevieve D Souza	Po Box 696 203 Soycon Apartments Azaiba Muscat Oman Postal Code 130 Near Mitsubishi Show Room, Oman, 130	51,864.10	03-Jun-21
Hennur Road Branch, Bangalore: No.39/2, Hennur Main Road, Kalyan Nagar Post, Bangalore, Dist. Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560043					
98	2016	R Vinod Kumar	S/O Raveendran 575 2nd C Cross 4th Block Hbr Layout Bangalore Northopp Treebo Hotel, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560038	65,906.19	11-Jun-20
Hoskote Branch: Door No.236, Old Madras Road, Nh4, Hoskote, District Bangalore Rural, Karnataka, Pin 562 114					
99	80	N Ramya	D/o Late Nagaraj Doddagattigana Bbe Hosakote Bangalore Rural, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 562114	18,625/-	15-May-19
100	90	Chaitra Raghuraman	5 2/M/305 Mamatha Estate Alwyn Cross Road Miyapur, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India, 500049	16,500/-	08-Feb-19
101	79	Chaitanya Reddy	018 Brahmaputra Block Amruth Sarovar Apartment Belathur Kadugodi Post, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560067	0	24-Apr-25
102	89	Arun Kumar B S	No 13 Bommenahalli Mandur Post Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560049	18,625/-	03-Jul-19
103	110	Yekula Prasanthi	C/O Bharath Kumar Reddy Kolagotla 230/1 C/O Bharath Farms Thoranahalli Village Thoranahalli Village Byranahalli Kolar, Kolar, Karnataka, India, 563130	15,725.46	11-Jun-20
104	30	Nithya Nagaraj	# 158 Doddadunna Sandra Devanagundi Post Hoskote Taluk Near Sri Rama Temple, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560067.	0	24-Apr-25
Hsr Layout Branch, Bangalore: Site No 2621, 27th Main, Sector 1, Opposite Cpwd Quarters, Hsr Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560102					
105	3023	Dasari Venkatasubba Reddy	305 Sls Towers Sneha Nagar Nellore Near Kondayapalem Steel Factory, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh, India, 524004	27,881.05	11-Jun-20
106	1027	Srinivas Reddy A P	Flat No 402 Bm Mystic Greens Apt Behind Shoba Daffodils Hsr Sector 2 Somasundara Palya Po Hsr Layout Dist Bengalurbehind Shoba Daffodils, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560102	0	24-Apr-25
107	4067	Namadev Bapu Suryawanshi	Flat 402 Zest Block-4 Sun City Apt Ibblur Bangalore South, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560102	23,339.44	03-Jun-21
108	2013	Sudhama Kanakamedala	1404 16th Main Aecs Layout A Block Singasandra ., Bangalore Rural, Karnataka, India, 560068	1,34,074.63	03-May-19
109	3021	S N Devendra Reddy	#119 Somasundar Palya H S R Post, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560034.	23,339.44	03-Jun-21
110	3049	Sathyan S Rajan	C By O Manasa Rajan E103, My Home Bhooja Apartments, Hitec City, Raidurgam, Cyberabad, Hyderabad, Telangana, India, 500081	0	24-Apr-25
Indira Nagar Branch: No. 774, 100 Feet Road, Hal 2 Nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560038					
111	2115	K G Mickey Bopanna	Door No 375 Fourth Estate 8th Main 9th Cross Lalithadri Road K C Nagar Siddarthnagar, Mysore, Karnataka, India, 570011.	0	24-Apr-25
112	10402	Pv Sreevally	G2, 1st Block 1st B Cross Bsr Splendor Park V Ijaya Bank Colony Dodda Banaswadi, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560043	47,569.08	03-Aug-22
113	3152	Jayaraman Neelamegam	Po Box 8822 Flat 1207 231/Al Nahda First Suhail Salem Bahwan Al Mukhainny UAE, United Arab Emirates, 8822	73,732.5	27-Jun-19
114	1035	Libitha Thinakaran	383, Joythi 5th Cross Sir Mv Ngr Kalihere Ngr, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560036	0	24-Apr-25
115	2081	Rekha Srinivas Agnihotri	31474 Nw Turel Dr North Plains, United States Of America, 97133	0	24-Apr-25
116	1016	Swaminathan P	#No 500 18th Main New No 21 Indiranagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560008	33,839.44	08-Jul-19
117	10396	Swaminathan P	#No 500 18th Main New No 21 Indiranagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560008	73,732.5	08-Jul-19
118	9335	Alok Sharma	144 Sobha Morzaria Grandeur 4/1 Bannerghatta Road Suddagunte Palya Dharmaram College, Ban, Karnataka, India, 560029	0	24-Apr-25
119	7019	Priya Rajan-Babu	No.B-106 Kumaradhara N.G.V Viveknagar Bangalore South Near Passport Office, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560047	38,191.69	03-Jun-21
120	2096	Suresh Kannan	Villa 87 Adarsh Vista Basavangar Main Road Doddanekandi, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	5,422.28	24-Apr-24
121	9334	Rukmini Sharma	Purva Midtown A702, FCI Road, Vijinapura Dooravani Nagar Iti Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560016	82,248.70	23-Apr-19
122	2083	Wg Cdr Kuber Kemkar	Flat 2b 106 Krishna Lkon Anna Sandra Palya Near Halkalyana Mandabam, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560017	23,339.44	03-Jun-21
123	2103	Sugumaran Harikrishnan	3732 Honey Lucust Dr Naperville Honey Lucust Dr Il, United States Of America, 60564	5422.28	24-Apr-24
124	2092	Sabita Jauhar Rathi	20 Kensington Court Kensington, United States Of America, 06410	0	24-Apr-25
125	1038	Yarala Ramesh Reddy	Flat no 102 Himigiri Homes H No 131/1 A/3 18th B main J P nagar 2nd phase Bengaluru Karanataka-560078.	86,604.80	21-Feb-19
126	5209	Karthik Sundaram	SF 103 Shriram Spandhana Varthur Hobli Challaghatta Bagalore North Marathahalli Colony Near Nalapad Academy, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	0	24-Apr-25
127	5210	Parthiv Hejmadi	565/4, 6th Cross, 7th Main, Hal 2nd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560008	0	25-Aug-25
128	1014	Jayanthi Hari	441 Riverwalk Dr Youngstown Ny, United States Of America, 14174	0	24-Apr-25
Infantry Road Branch: No.73/1-1, Ground Floor, Krishna Infantry Road, Bengaluru-560001					
129	16	Subiya Sayeed	No 16 Flat No C 06 2nd Floor 206 Abbas Towers Cockburn Road Bangalore North Hkp Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560051	47,953.25	11-Jun-20
J C Road Branch: No 36, Upper Ground Floor, J C Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560 002					
130	3015	Kavitha Jayaraj	No 59 1 1st Floor Shraddananda Bhavan Road Vv Puram Sajjanrao Circle, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560004	85,806/-	15-May-19
131	2038	Dileep K Nair	D- 32, Lgf Saket Malviya Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi, India, 110017	0	24-Jun-25
J P Nagar, 6th Phase Branch: No-75/A, Ganapathy Raja Enclave, 100 Feet Ring Road, 6 Th Phase, Jp Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560078					
132	4007	Mohammed Junaid	D-204 J P Nagar Phase 7 Brigade Gardenia J.P Nagar Bengaluru, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	0	24-Apr-25
133	1022	Vikas Aggarwal	Flat No 203 Vishwas Avenue 47/A, Umar Bagh Layout, 2nd Main Vivekananda Colony, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	28,694.44	24-Aug-20
134	3011	Jagadish	Room No 307 Classic Comport 100 Feet Ring Road J.P.Nagar 6th Phasenear Sarakki Signal, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	60,705/-	24-Aug-20
J.P. Nagar Branch: J.P.Nagar, Bangalore, Ground Floor, No/6/A, J/P/ Nagar Iii Phase, Bannaragatta Main Road, Bangalore 560 076, Karnataka					
135	5086	Ahsan Nizami	Wasel Village D25 Building Room Number 615 Po Box -812, United Arab Emirates, 0812	82,920/-	07-Feb-19
136	1010	Zishan Hamid Khan	Apt 201 Magna Vita Torre Palmeira Rua Carlos Weber Vila Leopoldina Sao Paulo 05303000, Brazil	62,614.69	31-Mar-21
137	4003	S Sudhakar	No 403 4th Floor Sterling Solitaire Apartment 1st Cross Sbg Road Syndicate Clnx, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560076	1,34,074.63	03-Jul-19
138	5021	Ankit Umesh Patel	No24iimain 12thacross Jpnagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560078	0	23-Apr-25
139	8021	Tridip Barman	House #6 Sapta Sahid Path Mathura Nagar Behind Prabuilding Dispur Behind Prabuilding Dispur, Guwahati, Assam, India, 781006	24,840/-	19-May-23
Jayanagar Branch: Sona Tower, #8, 32 E Cross, 4th T Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka 560 041					
140	9013	N Tejasvi	Flat C4 Jaya Nagar Residency 80-1 30 (Near Garuda Swagath Mall) Bysandra, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560041	0	24-Apr-25
141	10089	Mallik U	#190 Oak Leaze Patchway Bristol Pincode - Bs345fn, United Kingdom Of Great Britain And Northern Ireland	0	07-Jul-25
142	3008	Chaya S N	342-18 Sreebalaji Nilayam 35th Cross 1 Main Jayanagar 4th Block, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560041	2,11,928.38	25-Oct-23
143	1011	Jayaprakash Lokesh	No 6053 Sobha Arena Judicial Layout Kanakapura Road Thalaghattapura, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560062	-1	21-Jun-25
144	4014	Kini Radhakrishna Narasimha	Po Box 116613, United Arab Emirates, 116613	0	24-Apr-25
145	10043	Sampathraju	#No 342/18 Sree Balaji Nilayam 35crs 16th A Main Jayanagar 4th T Block, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560041	1,58,740.82	01-Aug-19
146	2003	K Babu	992ndmainchikkaadugodiponr Oracleblg Thavarekere, Banga, Karnataka, India, 560029	16,010.61	29-Aug-24
147	6030	K Babu	992ndmainchikkaadugodiponr Oracleblg Thavarekere, Banga, Karnataka, India, 560029	5,951.28	29-Aug-24
148	6025	Manisha Panjabi	59/10 39th B Cross Mr Layout Jayanagar 4th T Block, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560041	0	24-Apr-25
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AXIS BANK

S. No.	Locker No.	Name of the Locker Hirer(s)	Address	Amount Due (INR)	Amount Due from
179	3169	Priya Narayan	1968 Castillo Way, United States Of America, 95337	0	24-Apr-25
180	3183	Shantanu Kumar Sahu	No 334 Embassy Meadows 8th Cross 1st A Main St Bed Layout 4thblock Koramangala, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560034	38,126.94	17-Dec-18
181	3214	Jaydip Bhaumik	2 2nd St Apt 1608 Jersey City Nj ., United States Of America, 07302-7033	0	24-Apr-25
182	1052	Mankunda Ramalingaiah Srinivas	No 420 17th Cross Jp Nagar 5th Phase Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	0	03-May-25
183	3240	Namita Agrawal	37 Opp 15th Main 4th Block 80 Feet Rd Koramangala, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560034	0	24-Apr-25
184	1129	Mansi Kumar	C/o Prathi Kumar, 421/A, Phase 2, Palm Meadows White Fueld Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560066	44,711.35	26-Dec-19
185	1045	Siddharth Jha	E-102, Mantri Paradise, Bannerughatta Road Arekere Gate, Bilekahalli Opp Reliance Mart, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560076	0	24-Apr-25
186	2006	Ritesh Somani	No 25 35th Main Road Dollars Colony 1st Stage Btm Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560068	44,455.73	17-May-23
187	3238	Safia Nishat	Q No 11 Road No 1 Azadnagar Mango, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand, India, 832110	0	24-Apr-25
188	1023	Aravindakshan T S Y	#1807 B-4 Blk Landt South City Off Bannergatta Rd, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560076	96,082.66	26-Dec-19
189	2003	Gupta Vinay	A 11 Peble 52 Tower 1 1 Main Bollars Colony Rmv 2stage Bangalore North Nr Rmc 2stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560094	21,347.48	24-Apr-24
190	3254	Shilpa Prasad	306/8 Kausthuba 40 Cross 8th Block Jayanagar Bangalore Banashankari Ii Stage Bangalore South, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560070	27,881.05	13-Jun-20
Koramangala, 4 Th Block (Pb Branch): No-21, 80 Feet Road, 4th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560 095					
191	5015	Jayati Dutta Nandy	902 / 903 Puravankara Vantage 19 Main 25b Cross Hsr Layout Agara Sector 2, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560102	0	24-Apr-25
192	3008	Asha D Jain	W/o Jain D K 219 1st Floor 6th Main St Bed Lyt Koramangala 4th Block, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560034	33,839.44	15-May-19
193	1032	Ajay Agrawal	38249 Alta Dr, United States Of America, 94536	0	24-Apr-25
194	3071	Soma Biswas	10 Stone Hill Ln Moreland Hills Oh More Land Hill Oh, United States Of America, 44022-1036	35,005.5	05-Jul-19
Majestic, Bangalore Branch: Majestic, Bangalore, Plot No/ 41, Seshadri Road, Anand Rao Circle, Bangalore 560 009, Karnataka					
195	6	M Venkat Ratan	No 533/22 63rd Cross 5th Block Rajajinagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560010	35,322.20	11-Sep-19
196	14	Satish S S	Doddamavatturu Post, Huliyurudurga Hobli Kunigal Talluku Singonahalli, Tumkur, Karnataka, India, 572123	31,944.65	23-May-25
197	111	N K Prabhu	75/81 Pebble Bay Aartment 1st Main Road Dollars Colony Bangalore North Bengaluru, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560094	0	24-Apr-25
198	104	Manojkumar Shivalal Rathod	No B 1603 Mantri Greens Apts 16th Flr Sampige Road Malleshwaram Bangalore, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560003	49,155/-	15-May-19
199	151	Venkappa	No 83/1 Dombarahalli Village Koppal Tq Koppal Dist, Koppal, Karnataka, India, 583231	49,155/-	15-May-19
200	113	Jayalakshmi B V	B 104 Rns Shanthi Nivas Nivas Tumkur Road, Yeshwantpura, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560022	7,935/-	19-Dec-24
201	39	Uday Kumar Reddy P	No.9, Ashok Nagar Havambhavi Siruguppa Road Near Andhra Bank, Ballari, Karnataka, India, 583103	90,720/-	11-Jun-20
Malleswaram Branch: 233, 2nd Main, Sampige Road, Malleswaram, Bangalore 560003, Karnataka					
202	2028	R Varalakshmi Rao	99/1 7th Main 6th Cross Behind Sri Venkateshwara Cut Piece Store Sriram Puram, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560021	0	24-Apr-25
203	2027	Ratna Krishnamoorthy	No 3647/20 4th Cross B Block Gayatri Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560021	73,732.50	23-Apr-19
204	6025	Srinivas M	450 1st Block 3rd Stage Near Kadambi School Basaveshwarnagar Bangalore Near Kadambi School, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560079	5,951.28	24-Apr-24
205	3041	Rajendra Kuamar	C/O.Uti Bank Ltd., No.233, 2nd Main, Sampige Road, Malleswaram, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560003	1,16,795.44	12-Jul-21
206	6014	Vinod Balasubramanya Nadig	S/o B.G.Natig Mamata 19/1 18th Cross Road Malleshwaram Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560055	0	24-Apr-25
207	7007	Karishma Vikash Ranjan	19 Edinburg Ct Edison Nj, Usa, United States Of America, 08820	10,712.28	24-Apr-24
208	4062	Rinku Deshpande	Apt No.123, Tower-4, Pebble Bay, 1st Main, Rmv 2nd Stage, Dollers Colony, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560095	1,05,723.95	27-May-19
209	7003	Ravinder Sivaraman	Flat No 115 Dwarkamai Jupiter, Kaverappa Layout, Sy No.113 Panathur Village, Panathur Main, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560103	44,763.8	02-Sep-21
Mandya Branch: D5/102/1135 B - E, 1135 E & 1135 C - E, Vivekananda Road, Ashoknagar, Mandya, Karnataka Pin- 57140					
210	109	Ravishankar B M	#1853 6th Cross Subhash Nagar, Mandya, Karnataka, India, 571401	56,512.35	23-Apr-19
Marathahalli Branch: Marathahalli, Bangalore, Site No/ 43, Varthur Main Road, Marathahalli, Bangalore 560 037, Karnataka					
211	4002	Santhosh B	2148 Appasamy Trellis South Arcot Road Near Vijaya Mall Or Vadapalani Metro Station Vadapalani Vadapalani, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, 600026	0	24-Apr-25
212	6037	Shyamal Gautam	G-302 Alpine Eco Apartment Outer Ring Road Near Karthik Nagar Doddanekundi Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	0	24-Apr-25
213	5047	Shankar P	No 104 3rd Cross Sanjay Nagar Maratha Halli, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	28,694.44	03-Jul-20
214	5056	Deepak Kumar Nithayanada	#2 Shiva Complex 1st Cross Ramanjaneya Lyt Marathahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	38,126.94	18-Dec-18
215	2014	Narayanaswamy T C	No.4, Thubarahalli, White Field Post, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560066	0	24-Apr-25
216	5037	Artha Charities	No.8 Service Road Near Kalamandir Outer Ring Road Marathalli Post, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	23,339.44	15-Dec-21
217	5038	Artha Charities	No 8 Service Road Near Kalamandir Outer Ring Road Marathallipost, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	23,339.44	15-Dec-21
218	3005	Total Environment Constructions Pvt Ltd	78 Imagine Campus Itpl Main Road Epip Zone Whitefield Bengaluru Urban Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560066	17,077.50	24-Apr-24
219	2017	Total Environment Constructions Pvt Ltd	78 Imagine Campus Itpl Main Road Epip Zone Whitefield Bengaluru Urban Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560066	17,077.50	24-Apr-24
220	5059	Kavita Nagariya	Q 1101, Purva Fountain Square Near Marathahalli Flyover Marathahalli, Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	0	24-Apr-25
221	4005	Praveen Konda	# 204 Sixcon Appartments Srinivagilu Main Road Near Ejipura Signal Koramangala Viveknagarbangalore South, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560047	28,252.50	05-Jul-19
222	6032	Umesh Kumar Gandla Laddagiri	U 103 Rohan Jharoka Phase 2 Yemaluru Bangalore South Bengaluru Yemaluru Yemalur, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	0	24-Apr-25
223	1009	Amaranadh areddy D	#157/2, 1st Cross, 6th Stage, Beml Layout Ramagondanahalli, Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560066	1,40,047.11	14-Feb-20
Margosa Road Branch: No.147/7, Margosa Road, Malleswaram, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560003					
224	10	Kiran K	No.48 Panchaseelanagar 3rd Cross Moodalapalya, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560072	0	24-Jun-25
Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage Branch: No: 7 Outer Ring Road Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage, 2nd Block Extension, Bangalore-560072					
225	1047	Purushotthama	No.970/A, 17th Cross, D Group Layout Srigandhadakaval, Bengaluru Poornachandra, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560091	29,230.86	18-Jan-19
226	1009	Nagaraj	No.51 Manasu Nilaya 2nd Cross Near Balaji Temple Byadarahalli Viswaneedam, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560091	0	24-Apr-25
Nelamangala Branch: No.7455, Chinnappa Layout, B H Road, Nelamangala, Dist. Bangalore Rural, Karnataka, Pin 562123					
227	2079	Poornima K L	W/o Shrinivas J Adarsha Nagar Arishi Nakunte Nelamangal, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka, India, 562123	18,625/-	24-Jun-19
228	1069	B S Shivashankar	S/o Shivamalliah 72/3 Subash Nagar Nelamngala Bangalore Rural, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 562123	12,375/-	07-Jul-21
229	2107	P Suma	747, Channappa Layout East Side, Tya Heddari 4ra Daki, Nelamangala Bangalore Ruralnear Nh 4, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka, India, 562123	12,375/-	16-Jul-21
Old Madras Road Branch, Bangalore: Upper Ground Floor, No.45/004, Motati Meadows Apartments, Old Madras Road, C.V.Raman Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560093					
230	39	Robinson Ratchina Doss	P O Box 4 P C 113, Oman, 4	28,104.50	23-Apr-19
231	63	Infantraj Al	272 Infant Jesus House Nagvarapalya Main Road Beningahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560093	28,104.50	24-Dec-19
232	68	Ashish Shirish Deshpande	Room No.803/5 Sai Brinadavan, Khadakpada, Kdmc B Ward, Kalyan, Kalyan, Maharashtra, India, 421301	0	24-Apr-25
233	97	G Hemanth Kumar	013, Blue Bells Apartment Earappa Reddy Layout Manjunatha Nagar, Sai Sree Layout, Bangalore, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560100	62,074.85	03-Jul-19
234	22	Prem Kumar R	No 300 Rajanna Colony Near More Super Market Nagavara Palya Cv Raman Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560093	0	24-Apr-25
Panthur Branch: Saroj Bank Square, 114/4, Boganahalli, Gear School Road, Bangalore Pin-560103					
235	4	Mokshada Pravin Anji	120 Hill Top Dr Los Gatos Los Gatos, United States Of America, 95032	0	24-Apr-25
236	209	Saikiran Krishnamurthy	Villa 96 Adarsh Palm Retreat Deverabesana Halli Bellandur Bengalurunear Grand City Super Market, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560103	0	23-Apr-25
237	213	Rakhee Gorthi	670 Adarsh Palm Retreat Bellandur Bengaluru, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560103	0	24-Apr-25
238	210	John Tharakan Kalappurakkal John	Kalappurakkal House Tc 14 758 1 2 Chettikunnu Pothujanam Lane Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India, 695011	0	24-Apr-25
Peenya Branch: Peenya, Bangalore, 100 Ft/ Road, 149, Peenya Industrial Estate, Peenya 1st Stage, Bangalore 560057, Karnataka					
239	2032	M Rizwan Sharieff	#162/3 Sharieff Manzil Near Kaliyamma Temple Kalashtri Nagar Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560057	79,844.7	08-Aug-19
R.T. Nagar Branch: R.T. Nagar, Bangalore, Ground Floor, No/174, Mla Layout, R/T/ Nagar Main Road, R/T/ Nagar, Bangalore 560 032, Karnataka					
240	4002	Rajesh Narang Ashok	S/o Ashok Kumar Narang T 2 A 601 Godrej Woodsman Estate Hebbal Bangalore North Ha Farm, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560024	0	24-Apr-25
241	7013	Rinaz Khan	#29, 1st Floor, 5th Cross Chamundi Nagar Main Road, R.T Nagar Bangalore, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560032	26,324.50	15-Nov-19
242	8038	Mohamed Kaleemulla	Flat #802 Abu Shagara, United Arab Emirates, 135	5,422.28	24-Apr-24
243	5002	Pratap Reddy	No 38 2nd Stage 5th Main Road Postal Colony Sanjay Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560094	73,732.50	23-Apr-19
244	5031	Madi Raju Muralikrishna	No 291 Second Floor 1st Main 8th Cross Near More Tata Nagar Sahakarnagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560092	82,920/-	28-Jan-19
245	8033	Prasanna N Rao	Villa No.76 Prestige Oasis Adde Viswanathapura Main Road Rajanakunte Near Opp S B I Bank, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560064	28,809.99	27-Jan-21
246	2003	Sujesh Govindan	B 903 Aspen Tower T2 9th Floor Godrej Woods Man Estate Bellary Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560024	89,520.23	03-Jun-21
247	7030	Thaira Bathool Kozaindai	2 2nd Cross Kaval Byrasandra Extension Khb Main Road Bangalore North Bengaluru Near Supper Market, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560032	23501.99	03-Jun-21
248	4031	Jagmohini Bhasin	0	66582.04	03-Jul-20
249	4013	Manish Anand	S/o Om Prakash Anand # 201 Elegant Rise 1/2 Spencer Road Fraser Town Po Fraser Townpo Fraser Town North, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560005	64700	25-Jun-20
250	3017	Parul Patel	19/1 A, First Main Road, Jayamahal Extension, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560046	134073.37	21-Dec-19
251	6021	Javaregowda Anand	No-13/2 Flat C Swapna Mannor 6th Cross Dinnur Main Road Rt Nagar Behind Kotak Mahendra Bank, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560032	51,232.50	31-Jul-21
Rajajinagar 3rd Block: No:27(967), Ground Floor, 3rd Block, Rajajinagar Srirampura Ward, Bangalore-560079					
252	30	Lokesh Veerasanjeve Gowda	1/6 404 4th Floor Ashok Pura Main Road 1st Main Road Srikanteshwar Nagar Bangalore Near Ashok Apartments-, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560022	1,17,735.21	08-Aug-19
Rajajinagar Branch, Bangalore: Aditya Amogh Chambers, 10/ 116, 1 St Block, Dr Rajkumar Road, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560010					
253	41	Mani D	59, 3rd Cross, Rangadham, Opp Tocii, Prakrutinagar, Byadarahalli, Near Cii Iq. Byadarahallinear Cii Iq, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560090	50,746.46	10-Oct-19
254	20	Shwetha Y B	No 9 Snehaloka 2nd Cross Vijayanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560040	9,918.78	16-Nov-24
Rajarajeshwari Nagar Branch: No 483, Seetha Complex, Ideal Homes Co-Operative Building Society Ltd Layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin; 560098					
255	20	A R Chandrodaya Scindia	D7 Janapniya Abodes Behind Pp Nagar Behind P P Nagar Temple Bangalore South Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560098	0	24-Apr-25
Ramanagara Branch: Bldg.No.39, Nagaraj Complex, Bangalore-Mysore Road, Ramanagara, Dist. Ramanagara, Karnataka, Pin 562159					
256	28	Mohammed Zubair	392 Thurupalya Ramnagar Village Bangalore Rural, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 571511	12,665/-	15-May-19
Rbi Layout Branch, Bangalore: No.31, Kothanur Main Road, Rbi Layout, Jp Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560078					
257	1075	Shubhalaxmi S	5d 902 Provident Sunworth Phase 2, Venkatapura Village, Provident Sunworth Phase 2, Kengeri, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560060	4,107.94	27-Sep-24
258	2006	C Balaji	No.23, 2nd Main, Chaitanya Layout Ragavanapalya, J P Nagar 8th Phase Off Brooke`S Hevean Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560076	73,848.91	03-Jul-19
259	6011	K H Mallikarjun	#2551 Adhitya Residency Flt No 301 2nd Flr 13th Main Kumarswamy Layout 2nd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	1,31,096.33	22-Sep-21
260	6005	Hemant Jayant Bet	No 215 Royal Lake Front Residency C/O Phase-I Kothanur J P Nagar 8th Phase Near Bus Stop, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	1,31,988.42	11-Jun-20
261	5034	Abhilasha Hemant Bet	# 215 Royal Lake Front Residency Layout Phase-1 Kothanur P Nagar 8th Phase, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	68,245.63	07-Jul-21
262	4017	Irfan Khan	Door No 343 6th Cross Lakshmi Lay Pot Mico Layout Bengalro, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560076	33,839.44	23-Apr-19
263	4021	J Ravi Kumar	204 B Aishwarya Agate Appartments Sarakki Main Road J P Nagar 1st Phase Bangalore South Near Indharagandhi Circle, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	0	24-Apr-25
264	1048	Gopala P H	41, 1st Main Santhrupthinagar, J P Nagar 7th Phase Kothanuru Dinne Main Road, Opp To Big Bazar, Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	0	24-Apr-25
265	5013	Jayakumar R	S/O N Raju 1278 Poura Karmikara Colony Maruthinagara Dod Ballapur Bangalore Rural Bus Stop, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka, India, 561203	62,190/-	25-Jun-20
266	4002	Debashree Chatterjee Sanyal	5 Samuel Close Wheelers Hill, Australia, 3150	0	24-Apr-25
267	3018	Rakesh Tata Dwarkanath	No 117 Ground Floor Sadhguru Sai Nilayam 6th Main Gouravnagar Jp Nagar 7th Phase, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	1,33,968.02	11-Jun-20
268	1020	Prantik Dey	5-6 House No 3 Sri Beereshwara Nilaya 1st A Cross Gaurava Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560078	35,259.25	14-Feb-20
Sadashivnagar Branch: Ground Floor, J M Plaza, No.35, (Old. No.196), 2nd Main Road (Sankey Road), Sadashivanagar, (Upper Palace Orchards), Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560080					
269	9	Rakshith Shivaram	Shilaspara #34 4th Temple Street 15th Cross Malleswaram, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560003	5,422.28	24-Apr-24
Sahakaranagar Branch, Bangalore: No.19, 60 Feet Road, Sahakaranagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin. 560092					
270	280	Ayyappa P Sharma	#190 G Block 10th Main Road Sahakaranagar Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560092	36,917.78	28-Jan-21
271	220	Kusum Agarwal	A-002 Oscar Orchards 4713-48 A Block Behind Canara Bank Bangalorebehind Canara Bank, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560092	73,732.50	23-Apr-19
272	184	Pratishtha Bansal	W/O Raj Kumar Bansal House No-540 Sector-18 B Chandigarh Chandigah Chandigarh - Shiv Mandir, Chandigarh, Chandigarh, India, 160018	3,570.78	24-Apr-24
273	207	M Lingaraju	S/O Munivenkatappa 71 Rv Road Basavanagudi Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560004	51,232.5	15-Jun-21
274	175	V Supriya	490/3 F Block F Block Behind Mcdonald's Sahakaranagar Bangalorebehind Mcdonald's, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560092	82,744.86	23-Apr-19
275	134	Aruna S	Abode Apartment 303 3rd Floor Next To Kodigehalli Railway Station Sahakaarnagar D Block, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560092	38,036.25	22-Jun-22
Sanjay Nagar Branch, Bangalore: Sanjay Nagar, Bangalore, 23/4, D/ Rajagopal Road, Sanjay Nagar, Bangalore 560094, Karnataka					
276	271	Vishhwanath Kumaarr	S/o M Raju 16 1st Floor 7th Cross.K G E Layou Swathi Residency Sanjaynagar Rmv 2nd Stage Rmv 2nd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560094	33,839.44	06-May-19
277	177	Aarti Anil Lad	W/o Anil Lad Palace Road Sandur Bellary, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 583119	48,116.44	23-Apr-19
278	80	Anuradha G	G H Hanumantha Reddy And Co B D Road Challakere, Chitradurga, Karnataka, India, 577501	0	24-Apr-25
279	311	Radha Deepak	477 F 750 C 1st Stage Bharath Nagar Herohalli Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560091	1,70,966.26	26-Jul-23
280	245	Sowmya K	114 4th Main Kgelayout New Bel Road Devasandra Bangalore, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560094	41,565.55	13-Dec-18
281	262	V Lakshmi Narayan	146, Postal Colony 7th Main Sanjaynagar Bangalore, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560094	50,826.55	23-Apr-19
282	108	Sanjay Anantha Krishna	#5, 5th Cross, Mla Layout Boopasandra, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560094	95,897.05	22-Oct-21
283	186	Sandeep Raman	No 806 8th Floor Renaissance Woods 02 Jarakabande Forest Road Jalahalli Bangalore North Opp Forest Quarters, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560015	0	24-Apr-25
284	169	Roopa Singh	No 007 23/1 Hoyasala Sai Shelter Ap T Dr Rajgopal Road Sanjay Angar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560094	0	24-Apr-25
285	13	Sarmistha Panda	W/o: Debasis Panda, Doldere, Dolderia, Simlapal Bankura Dolderejunbakra, Bankura, West Bengal, India, 722160	0	24-Apr-25
286	304	Nazar Sheik Mohamed	Building No 6768 Jaafar Bin Abi Talib Secondary No 4212 Ai Sulai Maniyah Dist Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 12242	0	24-Apr-25
Sarjapur Road Branch, Bangalore: Ground Floor, Plot No.303/65/1a, Benaka Complex, Kaikondrahalli, Sarjapur Road, Carmelaram (P), Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560035					
287	1046	Subhasis Chowdhury	#401, B2, Pentaken Tower, 28th Main, 10th Cro Ss, Sector 1, Hsr Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560102	23,339.44	03-Jun-21
288	2025	LGCL Ashlar Owner S Welfare Association	Survey No 55/1 55/3, 58/1 58/2 Choodasandra Village Sarjapura Hobli Kasavanahalli Main Road Opposite To Ksrp, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560099	0	24-Apr-25
289	1052	Shaik Nazeer Basha	Survey No.4 Narne Road Filmnagar Jubileehills, Hyderabad, Telangana, India, 500008	25,999.12	13-Dec-19
Seshadripuram Branch: No:161, 2nd Cross Main Road Seshadripuram Bangalore- 560020					
290	30	Rajesh Bellulli	2094 3rd Main Opp Puranthar Hsptl Ncc A Block, Davangere, Karnataka, India, 577004	86,737.5	24-Aug-20
Shanthinagar Branch, Bangalore: No. 9, Ground Floor, K H Road, Shanthinagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560027					
291	67	Sri Meru Developers	No 205 Rohtiha Gardens 1st Cross 4th Main Tat Anagar Kodigahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560092	20,916.08	04-Aug-23
292	159	Sical Logistics Limited	Thirubuvanai, Pondicherry, Puducherry, India, 605107	1,07,257.50	23-Apr-19
293	48	Prakasam Anand	No 36 Sivanandha Nagar Kolathur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, 600099	20,700.08	16-Mar-24
294	78	Prakasam Anand	No 36 Sivanandha Nagar Kolathur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, 600099	20,700.08	16-Mar-24
295	87	G Naveen Kumar	No.30 Grd Flr Maruthi Nilaya 10th Main Gnanajyothi Nagar Mallathalli Ullalu Hmr School, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560056	0	24-Apr-25
296	174	G Narayan Babu	#1385 37th A Cross 11th Main Road Jayanagar 4th T Blok Bangalore Jayanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560041	1,07,257.50	15-Apr-19
297	175	G Narayan Babu	#1385 37th A Cross 11th Main Road Jayanagar 4th T Blok Bangalore Jayanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560041	1,07,257.50	15-Apr-19
298	17	Balai Sharma	# 48/86 2nd Floor, P T A Main Road, Thigalarapet, Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560002	41,698.92	22-Jul-21
299	69	Akshita Mehra	Villa 26 L G C L Luminaire No 39 Nanja Reddy Colony Anandapuram Bangalore North Jeevanbhimanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560075	61,443.94	15-May-19
300	54	Menaka S Bathija	C/O Srichand Chetandas No.1, Asha Towers Langford Road Cross, Lanford Road, Bangalore, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560025	51,148.81	11-Jun-20
Srinivasnagar Branch, Bangalore: Plot No. 578, 2nd Phase, 6th Block, Srinivasa Nagar, Banashankari-3rd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560085					
301	74	Kumar Harendra	Kumar Harendra, Flat - 1804, Tower - G Cleo County, Near Police Chowki, Noida Sector 121, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, India, 201301	1,44,932.41	07-Mar-19
Tumkur Branch: Tumkur, Karnataka, Ground Floor, Siddhaganga Office Complex, B/H/ Road, Tumkur 572 104, Karnataka					
302	4009	Asha Prasanna Kumar	Garden House, Garden Road, Tumkur, Karnataka, India, 572101	20,493/-	03-Dec-24
303	6017	K N Vinayakumar	S/o K S Narayanreddy Ashok Nagar 2 Crs Opp Govt College, Tumakuru, Karnataka, India, 572103	60,173.91	08-Jan-19
304	4002	K G Shivakumar	No-3011/C 15th Cross S S Puram, Tumakuru, Karnataka, India, 572102	49,155/-	21-Oct-19
305	4017	R Gopal	S/O Venkayya R Vinayaka Nagar 1st Cross B.P.S Compound Tumkur Karnataka, Tumkur, Karnataka, India, 572101	74,480.65	08-Jan-19
Uttarahalli Branch: No.49, Uttarahalli Main Road, Bangalore, Dist.Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560061					
306	68	Hemalatha R	No Siri Park View Apartment Site No 151 Flat No 401 4th Cross Ramanjaneya Nagar Chikkalasandra, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560061	67,674.91	11-Jun-20
Victoria Layout Branch: 'Silver Palms', #3, Palmgrove Road, Victoria Layout, Bengaluru - 560047					
307	1015	Hemant Kumar Sah	201 Sai Sree Mansion 2nd Cross New Thippasandra Indranagar Behind Post Office, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560075	40,213.24	23-Apr-19
Vidyaranyapura Branch, Bangalore: No. 1240, G S Arcade, B E L Layout, Vidyaranyapura Main Road, Bangalore, Karnataka 560097					
308	66	Rejish T R	TTK Services Pvt Ltd Fermsicon Groundfloor Marathahalli Outer Ring, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560037	41,994.3	13-Dec-18
309	59	R Gnanashekar	53 Iind Ramana Garden Chadb Vidyaranya Pura, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560097	3,962.79	24-Apr-25
310	101	Kala Mandyam Bhoolokam	1469, Bethpage Cir Il, Elgin, United States Of America, 60124	0	24-Apr-25
311	68	Mahesh S	#80 4th Cross, 4th Main, Ramachandrapura, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560013	33,157.92	03-Jul-19
312	64	Annieamma Samuel	No 14/1 Chamundeshwari Layout, N P Gardens Bangalore North, Bangalore, Vidyaranyapuranear Ashvattekatte, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India, 560097	33,603.68	15-May-19
313	70	Arundhati S Rao	Flat No 17, Krishna Green Apartment Krishna Temple Road, Doddabommasandra Vidyaranyapura Near Krishna Temple, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560097	0	24-Apr-25
Vijayanagar Branch, Bangalore: Vijayanagar, Bangalore, G.G. Arcade, Service Road, No/2940/E-5, West Of Chord Road, Opp/ Maruti Mandir, Vijayanagar II Stage, Bangalore 560 040, Karnataka					
314	111	Umadevi Shrigiri	10 And 11 Sri Lakshmi Giri Regency 2 Bangalore Rmv Extension 2nd Stage Bbmp North, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560094	0	24-Apr-25
315	178	Satish Kumar Satish Kumar Pavagad Linganna	149 Livingston Ln Exton Pa 19341, United States Of America, 19341	0	24-Jun-25
316	189	Pradeep Jain	S/o Sri Harish Chandra Jain No 127, 2nd Cross Telecom Layout K P Agrahara Bangalore North Magadi Roadtotal Gas Bank, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560023	28,694.44	24-Aug-20
317	135	Patanjali Pawate	278 6th Main Bhel Layout Kenchanahalli Rajara Jeshwari Nagar Jeshwari Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560098	0	24-Apr-25
318	139	Sarala V	#644/32 6th Main Road Vijayanagar Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560040	33,324.94	23-Apr-19
Whitefield Main Road Branch, Bangalore: No.43/2, Old No.8, White Field Main Road, Bangalore, Dist. Bangalore, Karnataka, Pin 560 066					
319	109	Maitri Gopalakrishna	No5/13 Brunton Road Cross Bangalore North Museum Road Bangalore North Bengaluruspring Lifes Appartment, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560025	0	24-Apr-25
320	79	Swastika Pathak	Flat No 8084 L Prestigeevel 8 Block, Prestige Shantiniketan White Field Road Opp To Manipal Hospital, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560048	0	24-Apr-25
321	74	Anantha Sankeerth Reddy	# Plot No 157/1 Mla Mps Colony Road No 10c Jub

According to Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre, multiple mitigation measures are being implemented, including solar fencing, rail barricades, elephant-proof trenches and rapid response teams. Experts point to a combination of ecological changes and human activity as the root causes of the escalating man-animal conflict that is driven by habitat loss and fragmentation, depletion of natural prey, and in some landscapes, increasing wildlife populations without a corresponding expansion of habitat.

Caught between forest and fear

From Kodagu's hills to Hassan's farmlands, rising encounters with elephants, gaurs and big cats are claiming lives, exposing gaps in mitigation, and leaving residents demanding urgent, lasting solutions, find **Darshan Devaiah B.P.** and **Sathish G.T.**

On a quiet evening of February 28, 2026, 17-year-old Pooja stepped off a bus in Bettathuru village near Madikeri, like she had done countless times before. A student of St Michael's College, she was just a short walk away from home barely 100 metres from the edge of the forest. But what followed was a tragedy her family and the entire village are yet to come to terms with. A wild elephant emerged suddenly and attacked her. Severely injured, Pooja died on the way to the hospital.

The people of Bettathuru, located on the fringes of dense forest in North Kodagu, have long lived under the shadow of elephant movement. For the residents, the forest is not just around them, but something that often affects their daily lives. Pooja's death turned that fear into anger. Villagers gathered in protest, accusing the Forest Department of ignoring repeated warnings about elephants straying into their village. Girish, Pooja's father said, "We had been informing officials about elephants roaming near our homes for months. If action had been taken in time, my daughter would still be alive. We have been protesting, but the Forest Department has not taken any action."

Barely six weeks later, tragedy struck again, this time in South Kodagu. On April 8, Mokalamada Rathu, a 56-year-old coffee planter from Kaiemani, was attacked by a wild elephant while on his way to his estate. Like Pooja, he too succumbed to his injuries before reaching hospital. These two incidents underline a grim and growing reality in the forested hills of Kodagu. Human-animal conflict is no longer occasional but a persistent and deeply feared threat shaping everyday life.

Official data accessed by *The Hindu* shows that 47 people have lost their lives due to animal attacks over the past five years in Kodagu, making it one of the worst-affected districts in Karnataka, on a par with Chamarajanagar district. The district has repeatedly found itself in the headlines for such incidents, with residents blaming both the Forest Department and the government for failing to address the issue effectively. There have also been instances of leopards and tigers attacking people across different parts of the district, adding layers of fear and unpredictability.

A State-wide crisis

The crisis, however, is not confined to Kodagu. Across Karnataka, districts bordering forests are witnessing a rise in human-animal conflict. Between 2021-22 and 2025-26, the State has recorded 259 deaths due to animal attacks. Apart from Kodagu and Chamarajanagar, districts such as Mysuru, Hassan and Chikkamagaluru district feature prominently in the list of fatalities. The numbers peaked at 65 deaths in 2023-24, dipped slightly to 46 in 2024-25, and have already reached 49 in the current year.

> "If we are serious about reducing conflict, we must confront the underlying drivers directly, rather than relying on solutions that are easier to promote but ineffective on the ground
>
> **SANJAY GUBBI,** senior scientist and conservationis

In Hassan district, the scale of the crisis is evident in the recurring tragedies that unfold in its rural belts. Raja Shetti, a 65-year-old farmer, was on his way to his farmland at Kanaguppe in Belur taluk of Hassan district early on the morning of April 12 when he encountered a tusker. The animal trampled him to death. Members of the Elephant Task Force had alerted local residents about a tusker roaming near the village the previous evening. However, the tragedy struck in the early morning hours, before ETF personnel could track the animal's latest position and warn the public.

Raja Shetti's death is the latest in a series of fatalities reported in the region in recent years. Whenever such incidents occur, people stage protests, block traffic, raise slogans against the Forest Department and demand a permanent solution to the escalating human-elephant conflict.

The taluks of Sakaleshpur, Belur and Alur in Hassan district form the core of this conflict zone. Several elephant herds roam across these areas, keeping residents in a state of constant fear. The attacks have claimed lives across all age groups – from children to the elderly. Parents remain anxious until their children return home safely from school. Elephant herds frequently trample through agricultural fields, destroying crops and inflicting heavy losses on farmers.

The crisis extends to the neighbouring district of Chikkamagaluru as well. At Hunasehalli village, two people died within a single week in elephant attacks in February this year. Both victims were agricultural labourers – Boramma, 45, from Kudligi taluk in Vijayanagara district, and Yallappa from Hangal taluk of Haveri district – who had travelled to Chikkamagaluru to work in coffee estates. Last October, two more persons, Umesh Gowda and Harish Shetty, died near Kerekatte in Sringeri taluk, reportedly while they had gone to collect fodder for their cattle.

Such repeated tragedies have resulted in residents of both Hassan and Chikkamagaluru demanding that the State and Central governments capture and translocate elephants roaming in human habitations.

Chikkamagaluru has also witnessed deaths in Indian gaur attacks. On April 18, Chetan, 30, was gored to death by an Indian gaur at an estate in Marasanige, Kalasa taluk. He succumbed to his injuries on the way to hospital, as the animal's horns had pierced his abdomen. In a separate incident, a farmer lost his life in a similar attack at Haluvalli in the same taluk. Locals have been demanding the capture and relocation of Indian gaurs as well.

In response to the growing unrest, Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, who also holds charge of Hassan district, recently chaired a review meeting with Forest Department officials to address the human-elephant conflict. He called for improved elephant tracking and advance public alerts when elephants approach human settlements. The Forest Department has deployed local personnel in task forces and is using drones to monitor herd movements. GPS-enabled radio collars have also been fitted on several elephants to track their movements more effectively.

Understanding rising conflict

Experts point to a combination of ecological changes and human activity as the root causes of this escalating conflict. The expansion of plantations, infrastructure projects, and human settlements has gradually reduced and fragmented wildlife habitats.

"Traditional elephant corridors have been disrupted, forcing animals to move through villages and farmlands. At the same time, crops such as paddy and banana attract elephants, drawing them closer to human habitation. Changing climate patterns and availability of water sources are also believed to influence animal movement, further complicating the situation," an expert working closely with the government told *The Hindu*.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Sanjay Gubbi, senior scientist and conservationist, said that reducing human-wildlife conflict is central to the future of conservation in Karnataka and across India. He pointed out that a significant proportion of human fatalities is linked to species such as elephants, leopards, tigers, sloth bears and crocodiles, and stressed that the issue must be addressed through informed, science-based approaches. At its core, Gubbi explained, the conflict is driven by habitat loss and fragmentation, depletion of natural prey, and in some landscapes, increasing wildlife populations without a corresponding expansion of habitat. He cited examples from Nagarahole and Bandipur, where rising tiger and elephant numbers are placing additional pressure on the already limited space.

No one-size-fits-all solution

Gubbi emphasised that there is no one-size-fits-all solution to the problem, and that responses must be site- and species-specific. He called for clear land-use zonation that prioritises conservation in critical habitats and warned against further diversion of key wildlife areas. Projects that submerge elephant habitats, such as the proposed Mekedatu dam, he said, could intensify conflict in regions like Ramanagara and Mandya. He also cautioned against indiscriminate capture and translocation of animals such as the large number of leopards captured in the Mysuru division, which often worsens conflict, as animals attempt to return through unfamiliar landscapes.

"Excessive manipulation of wildlife habitats, such as artificial waterholes and grassland creation, must be curtailed, as it artificially boosts animal numbers without expanding available habitat. The removal of senna and lantana is often projected as a solution to human-wildlife conflict, largely driven by sections of the environmental sector. However, there is no clear scientific evidence linking invasive species directly to conflict. There is also a need to curb prey poaching to ensure adequate natural prey for large carnivores, especially in non-protected and human-dominated landscapes where poaching remains severe. The focus must be on securing habitats, maintaining healthy prey populations, and implementing evidence-based strategies rather than relying on quick fixes," Gubbi explained.

He further observed that many professional conservation organisations are overlooking the key drivers of human-wildlife conflict and, in some cases, promoting short-term and ineffective solutions. He pointed to the situation in Hassan district as an example, noting that despite multiple scientific studies identifying habitat loss and fragmentation as the primary causes of human-elephant conflict, this fundamental issue has often been sidelined. As a result, he said, the conflict has intensified and expanded into new regions such as Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and parts of Mudigere.

He underlined the need for conservation actions to be guided by evidence rather than narratives shaped by funding priorities or visibility. "If we are serious about reducing conflict, we must confront the underlying drivers directly, rather than relying on solutions that are easier to promote but ineffective on the ground," he said.

Government pushes new measures

Meanwhile, the Karnataka government, In the March 2026 Budget, proposed the Karnataka Man-Animal Conflict Mitigation Programme with an outlay of ₹1,500 crore over the next five years. The government has already spent ₹1,044 crore in the past three years on compensation, creation of elephant and leopard task forces, installation of solar fencing, trenching, and other protective measures.

More recently Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has proposed the establishment of an Elephant Reserve, or *Aane Dhama*, as a long-term solution to the crisis. However, the proposal is yet to receive approval from the Central government, delaying its implementation. Mr. Khandre said that around 300 wild elephants are currently outside forest areas, largely moving through plantations and farmlands, leading to frequent human-animal conflict.

"The proposed Aane Dhama aims to rehabilitate such elephants. However, capturing even a single elephant is a major logistical challenge, and we must ensure that no lives are lost in the process," he said.

He added that multiple mitigation measures are being implemented, including rail barricades, elephant-proof trenches and rapid response teams. "Our frontline staff and elephant task force teams are constantly on the ground to manage conflict situations," he said.

The Minister also sought cooperation from people living near forest areas. "If residents follow the guidelines issued during conflict situations, such incidents can be prevented and the situation can be handled more effectively," he said.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Prof Raman Sukumar, a elephant biologist and professor at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, said that Aane Dhama could be a good step.

"Four decades ago, elephants rarely entered human habitations, but today their movement into farmlands and settlements has become frequent, even in areas of Kodagu where such presence was once limited to peripheral forest zones. As per current estimates, around 300 wild elephants are outside forest areas, leading to repeated human-elephant conflict. If this trend continues, the numbers could rise further. In this context, rehabilitation is a necessary step. However, it should be part of a broader, integrated approach combining multiple measures to effectively address the issue," he said.

A synchronised symphony

From Bengal to Bengaluru, Chironutan 2026 brings 100 voices from across 11 States in a tribute to Tagore's timeless music

Ode to Tagore At Chironuton 2024. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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This weekend, 11 States will be in unison as they sing to commemorate the 165th birth anniversary of renowned Bengali polymath Rabindranath Tagore. In Karnataka, the initiative titled Chironutan is helmed by Malancha - The Pioneer Institute of Performing Arts. Founder Debjani Mala Roy says up until 2024 these celebrations were limited only to West Bengal. Now, they take a new avatar as the choirs go pan-India.

Conceptualised by Arundhati Deb, country wide programme director of Malancha, Chironuton 2026 is a Sangeet Bharati Muktadhara initiative that will bring together choirs across 11 states of India 'presenting Rabindranath Tagore's timeless compositions in a synchronised musical celebration'.

"We aim to carry forward this initiative every alternate year. In 2026, Rabindra Jayanti will be commemorated across 11 States including Maharashtra, Karnataka, Orissa, Assam, and Jharkhand, among others. There are choirs in every State who will sing the same songs simultaneously," says Debjani, adding that 100 singers from Bengaluru will be participating in this year's event.

"It is said that when Tagore went to Italy he had seen choirs and loved the experience. He had wished for his songs to be sung in the same manner and this initiative is an ode to him." Attendees can look forward to songs such as 'Hey Nuton', 'Aamare Tumi Ashesh Korechho', 'Amra Nutan Praner Chor', and 'Baare Baare Peyechi'.

"Bringing 100 voices together on one stage is not just a musical presentation, it is a celebration of Tagore's enduring legacy, collective discipline, and cultural unity."

At Chowdiah Memorial Hall, on May 10 from 6pm. Entry free.

A complex landscape The Bunker Room in Bengaluru . SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Where restraint meets ritual

Japanese bar craft, style and sensibilities are redefining the Indian cocktail circuit, from its concepts to niche ingredients. We look at its appeal

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I am seated at the secret bar within a bar in Bengaluru's Una Hacienda. The mixologist slides me a drink – a blend of white tea sake and a kombucha gastrique. There is no menu to consult and no orders to be placed. This is an 'omakase' bar experience, the Japanese concept that means, "I'll leave it to you". It is not my first time either. Japanese ingredients, spirits and techniques are making their presence felt in Indian cocktails bars. Across the country, mixologists and owners are having a love affair with Japanese aesthetics.

An omakase experience

The Bunker Room inside Una Hacienda is a space built for the bar team to experiment with the menu. Owner of the bar and industry expert, Arijit Bose explains, "Omakase usually means 'chef's choice'. The guests surrender their evening to us, and we take them through a tasting that we feel will be interesting. Bartenders love it, as it allows them to express themselves, their ideas and personalities without constraints. And Bengaluru loves this stuff."

In Delhi's Call Me Ten, the concept is pushed to a more bespoke level. "When you arrive at the bar, you begin by filling out a simple omakase preference card, indicating your leanings across flavours, spirits, and profiles," says Angadh Siingh, co-founder. "The mixologist engages you in a brief conversation and then, they design a tailored cocktail experience that evolves with you, drink by drink."

Call Me Ten feels it is an izakaya at heart and wants to bring that personal touch. Akshay Shokeen, co-founder explains, "Rather than repeating a fixed set of drinks, each interaction begins with a new set of preferences, allowing the bartender to approach every guest with a fresh perspective."

Ginza in your glass

Japanese spirits and ingredients are not new to our menus, but they are getting a fresh twist. In Bengaluru's Indiranagar, Katana is an izakaya bar by restaurateur Sandesh Reddy and cookbook author Prasanna Pandarinathan. Here is it not omakase, but Japan's favourite spirit sake that is the inspiration. Saketinis and Zen Garden Smash take classic cocktails and infuse them with Asian ingredients. The Hood in Ashok Nagar has a whole menu section devoted to the neighborhood of Gion in Kyoto with cocktails such as Midnight at an Osaka Pickle Bar and Beware the Ginza Tiger.

Chef Vishesh Jawarani's JSan in Anjuna just released a new cocktail programme themed on Japanese principles of Shin, Gi, Rei, Wa that teach balance and harmony. "My obsession about Japan is not just about the food. It is their overall philosophy. Japanese bars' service, tradition and hospitality appeal to me."

The drink Shitashu is a savoury number made with vodka, umeshu (a pickled plum liqueur) and infused with shiitake mushrooms. There are also challenges when using Japanese ingredients. "Pretty much all Japanese ingredients are imported, yuzu, shiitake mushrooms, daikon radish and shisho leaves. It is harder to get some in Goa. When we do not get them, we use our creativity or local variants."

Ukiyo, at the Ritz-Carlton Pune is a Japanese restaurant that balances tradition with a modern perspective. Their drink Ponzu & Mirin for instance, is a play on balance of flavours at its core. The rum-based drink has citrus and sweet flavours. "Conceptually, the cocktail represents the art of origami, reflecting precision, elegance, and minimalism. The cocktail is finished with a crispy nori sheet garnish, folded to resemble an origami form," Vedant Shetty the head mixologist says.

Beyond minimalism

Japanese minimalism and interiors have been on the forefront of style and design for a few years. But a more fun, young and playful Japanese style is emerging as a favourite. Edo in Bengaluru reinvented itself with Anime-inspired wall paintings, Tokyo-style neon lights, and even an Andy Warhol-esque Mickey Mouse. It is bold with a colourful palette.

Supa San in Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex sports a nomikai vibe or the post-work drinks that you get with friends. There are neon signs, Japanese board games, wasabi-laced edamame plates and a 90-minute limitless drinks experience.

Japan's bar culture is eclectic and diverse. On the one side they have precision and craftsmanship, on the other is the salaryman trying to get a cheap drink after a long day's work. It may sound familiar and maybe that is why many Indian bars are looking eastward.

With inputs from ***Barry Rodgers***

Bookstore calling

Bengaluru's reading community rallying around The Bookworm says a lot about its larger culture

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Sridevi Nayak's association with The Bookworm bookstore on Church Street began around 12 years ago, when she moved from Udipi to Bengaluru. Adapting to a new place was hard, and she coped by visiting the store regularly. "What started as a relationship between a customer and a person selling the books became very special," says Sridevi.

So, when she heard that The Bookworm had been badly affected by the extreme weather events, that hit the city on April 29, her first instinct was to step in to help. "Books are an integral part of my life now, and Bookworm has nurtured this, so I wanted to.

Right now, it needs support to come back to an operational level."

Like Sridevi Bengalureans across the city have been trying to support this beloved bookstore, a testament to the city's strong reading culture and its connection to the bookstore and the person behind it: Krishna Gowda, its proprietor, who is still mildly flabbergasted by the outpouring of love it garnered, both on and offline. "We put out only one Instagram post, but so many people reacted. The reading community's support is amazing," he says.

Krishna Gowda, the proprietor of The Bookworm in Bengaluru. MURALI KUMAR K

A big driver of this movement has been social media, with many putting out 'Support Bookworm' posts. City-based content creator, Padmaja Phatak, whose Instagram handle, thebookishtales, has nearly 12,000 followers is one of them. Soon after the incident, she posted about her six-year-long association with The Bookworm and what the space means to her. "Bookworm was the first place I visited after moving to Bengaluru from Baroda," she says, adding that the experience of the bookstore made her feel at home in the city, something stand-up comedian Shankar Chugani, who also visited the bookstore immediately after the flood, reiterates. "A place like Bookworm or Champaca or the Indian Music Experience brings people a little closer to calling this city their own," he believes.

However, Ravi Menezes, the proprietor of Goobe's Book Republic, who also helped, raises a very real question: will this actually translate into a better book culture in the city? While it is human nature to help those in need, it is often a knee-jerk reaction, with people returning to online book shopping, once the initial enthusiasm dies down. "As an individual bookstore owner, our biggest challenge remains readers purchasing from online platforms which offer huge discounts. While corporates can afford to slash prices, this affects our livelihood, and I do hope readers reconsider supporting local stores and the sustainable options they represent."

With inputs from ***Ruth Dhanaraj***

STEPOUT

Layered narratives

When the Rainbow is Enough, a play adapted from Ntozake Shange's work and reimagined in an Indian context, explores a question we often avoid: what if what we already have is enough? The production, presented by Theatre for Change and helmed by Sujatha Balakrishnan, attempts to bring us back to the present through layered narratives of love, grief, ambition, and self-worth.

At Turning Pages, Jakkur, on May 9, starting at 6pm. Tickets priced at ₹350, can be purchased on the Turning Pages website

A literary evening

The Complex, Karan Mahajan's latest novel, will be launched in the city. The event will feature a conversation between Karan Mahajan and Dharini Bhaskar around the book, touching on family, politics, memory, and contemporary India. It will also include an audience Q&A and book signing.

At Champaca, Vasanthnagar, on May 9, starting 6pm. Entry is free and open to all.

Bengaluru calling

Aata Aadi, Maja Maadi, an immersive and competitive trivia experience that puts your Bengaluru knowledge to the test, will be held this weekend. As it is a team game, participants may bring a friend or be ready to play with new teammates as they explore the city's streets, stories, people, and hidden histories.

At BLR Design Centre, Church Street, on May 9, between 11am and 1 pm. Registrations, costing ₹300 per participant, can be made on the BLR Design Centre's website.

Demographic imbalance in India needs more attention: RSS chief

With regard to Common Civil Code, Mohan Bhagwat referred to the introduction of the law in a few States in the country, including Uttarakhand, and expressed optimism that it will gradually be implemented across India

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat said demographic imbalance in India needs more urgent attention than population control.

Responding to a query from a member of the audience after his talk on 'Social Harmony as a Catalyst of National Development' as part of JSS Mahavidyapeetha's Golden Jubilee lecture series, at Suttur Mutt in Mysuru, on May 7, Mr. Bhagwat said India was today a nation of "young fellows", who will become "old fellows" in the next 30 years. "We have to think about feeding them. How many hands will be required [to feed them]?"

Taking these factors into consideration, including the condition of women and their health, a policy should be prescribed. "We recommend that the government think of the next 100 years," he said.

Referring to India's National Population Policy of aiming to stabilising population growth by achieving a Total Fertility Rate (TFR) or replacement level fertility of 2.1, Mr. Bhagwat claimed the present TFR of 2.1 is "nothing but 3", and

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat releasing a book by Sadguru Madhusudan Sai at the golden jubilee special lecture series at Suttur Mutt in Mysuru on Thursday. Seer of Suttur Mutt Shivarathri Deshikendra Swami is alongside him. M.A. SRIRAM

emphasised the need for the government to create awareness of the policy, and make it work without discrimination.

Mr. Bhagwat recalled the efforts to control population by force by the government during Emergency, and subsequent defeat of the then government. He said the present government may be averse to such an idea of "directly" controlling population.

However, he said, population growth was not as much a priority for the government as demographic imbalance was.

With regard to a query on Common Civil Code, Mr. Bhagwat referred to the introduction of the law in a few States in India, including Uttarakhand, and expressed optimism that it would gradually be implemented across India.

He said there was a need to be patient as things move slowly in democracy. 'It is not decided by one person, but by 142 crore people," he said while reiterating his hope that Common Civil Code will come into force in India.

Responding to a question from former BJP MLC, Madhusudan, on the measures needed to prevent political parties from creating caste-based vote banks, Mr. Bhagwat said politicians would take advantage of caste as a "legitimate endeavour" to get votes as long as society remembered caste.

"They [politicians] cannot get votes by working, but they can get votes by caste. If society forgets caste, then politics will correct itself. Don't blame politicians," he said.

In this context, Mr. Bhagwat emphasised the need to support individuals, who marry intercaste.

Recalling that an intercaste marriage in Maharashtra in 1942 receiving congratulatory messages from two prominent leaders – B. R. Ambedkar and the then *sarsangchalak* (chief) of RSS M. S. Golwarkar – Mr. Bhagwat said, "Guruji had written that he was happy for the intercaste marriage, not for the fulfilment of desire, but for setting an example before society that there was no caste."

To another question, Mr. Bhagwat said there was no option, but to ensure oneness among different religions and communities.

"We have to [achieve oneness]. It is not a question of *can we* (achieve oneness). All religions try to take us to the truth. The paths may be different, but the destination is the same," he said before pointing out that it was necessary to make religions see that all their destinations were the same.

"If there is no harmony among communities and religions," Mr. Bhagwat warned, "we will destroy ourselves. We have to make our own example, and have the world follow us."

K. Sanjay Murthy, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, along with others during the 5th BRICS SAI Leaders' Summit in Bengaluru on Thursday.

Global congestion indices have risen from 20% to 25%: CAG

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Comptroller and Auditor-General (CAG) K. Sanjay Murthy, on Thursday (May 7, 2026) said that global congestion indices had risen from 20% to 25% as of 2025 costing each urban commuter between 100 and 180 hours of productive time every year.

Mr. Murthy, who was speaking at the 5th BRICS Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) Leaders' Summit here, said that urban mobility failed not for want of roads or rails, but for want of systems that worked together.

"We build metro lines that don't connect to bus networks. We build flyovers that merely shift congestion. We measure outputs, km of road laid, stations built, rather than outcomes: did commute times fall? Did air quality improve? Did inequality in access reduce?" Mr. Murthy said.

On Indian cities, he said that our cities today occupied just 3% of our land, yet they contributed 60% of our national GDP.

"By 2030, 70% of all new jobs in India will be created in cities. According to the UN, more than 50% of India's population will live in our cities and towns by 2050," he said.

He added that the CAG was conducting a special audit of 101 Indian cities, assessing Ease of Living from the citizen's perspective, across quality of life, access, sustainability and perception.

"And we are auditing multi-modal transport and first-mile, last-mile logistics, in partnership with institutions like Indian Institute of Technology and Indian Institute of Management and with the World Bank," he added.

Convened in India's year of BRICS Chairmanship 2026, the summit held in Bengaluru brings together 42 delegates, including Heads of SAIs from BRICS member countries to deliberate on audit themes of shared relevance, exchange best practices, and strengthen public financial oversight.

'Living argument'

"There is something particularly fitting about gathering here, in the city that India calls both its Silicon Valley and its Garden City. A city that writes the software powering the world's most advanced enterprises, and where, on the very same morning, a nurse boards an overcrowded bus for a ninety-minute commute to save lives that software cannot reach. Bengaluru, in that way, is not just a host city. It is the living argument for why this summit matters," Mr. Murthy said.

Farmers oppose norm relying on CIBIL score for gold loan

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka State Sugarcane Growers' Association President Kuruburu Shantkumar has urged the Reserve Bank of India to withdraw the norms that prescribe good CIBIL (Credit Information Bureau (India) Limited) score as a pre-requisite to obtain gold mortgage loan from banks.

A delegation of farmers led by Mr. Shanth Kumar met RBI top officials here on Thursday and submitted a memorandum to them in this regard besides explaining to them about the inconvenience caused to farmers through such norms.

Kuruburu Shanthakumar, president of the State Sugarcane Growers' Association, along with other farmer leaders submitting a representation to RBI officials in Bengaluru on Thursday.

Change since April 1

After meeting the RBI officials, Mr. Shanth Kumar told *The Hindu* that the RBI had changed the norms related to loans obtained by mortgaging gold loans with effect from April 1 this year.

"There was no need to have a good CIBIL score, that indicate creditworthiness, for obtaining gold loans so far as the mortgaged gold itself was a security against any defaulting. But since April 1 this year, you need to have a good CIBIL score even to get gold loan. This is anti-farmer as most of famers have made it a practice to take care of their short-term financial requirements through gold loans as they cannot get other loans easily due to their poor CIBIL scores," he said.

"Farmers do not get regular monthly incomes and hence their CIBIL scores are bound to decline if they fail to pay up even one or two monthly installments. Hence they would depend heavily on gold loans. But now it would be difficult for them to get even gold loans," he observed, while expressing concern that such changes in the loan system would affect farm sector. He alleged that such norms are bound to push farmers towards private money lenders and private gold loan operators who later cheat with high interests.

State-of-the-art Health Emergency Operations Centre launched

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To strengthen preparedness and response to public health emergencies and disasters, the Karnataka's Health Department launched a state-of-the-art Health Emergency Operations Centre (HEOC) at Arogya Soudha in Bengaluru on May 7.

Established under the Union government's Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), the HEOC will function as a centralised command and control facility for surveillance, coordination, resource deployment and decision-making during health crises.

The initiative follows lessons learnt during the COVID-19 pandemic, which exposed gaps in coordination, real-time surveillance and rapid response systems.

Karnataka is among the first major States in India to operationalise such an advanced public health facility.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao, who inaugurated the centre, said the HEOC would serve as a central command unit to ensure timely decision-making, efficient utilisation of resources, and dissemination of accurate information during emergencies.

He said the need for such a system was strongly felt during the pandemic, when lack of coordination emerged as a major challenge.

Referring to outbreaks, fire accidents and natural disasters, the Minister said the command and control centre had been established in line with WHO guidelines.

According to officials, the HEOC will operate round the clock through an integrated, technology-driven framework aimed at shifting emergency management from a reactive approach to a pro-active and preparedness-based system.

The facility is equipped with a central operations room, high-resolution video wall, video conferencing systems, emergency call handling systems, data servers, networking infrastructure, and real-time dashboards for monitoring and response coordination.

The HEOC will coordinate with multiple agencies, including the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), State Disaster Management Authority, police, fire and emergency services, district administrations and other departments.

The Minister said the HEOC would facilitate coordination not only within the Health Department, but also among Revenue Department, State Disaster Management Authority, police and fire and emergency services, during a crisis.

DKS slams T.N. Governor

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Thursday criticised Tamil Nadu Governor Rajendra Arlekar for delaying the swearing in of TVK chief C. Joseph Vijay and the formation of the government.

Citing Karnataka's 2018 political developments as an example, Mr. Shivakumar termed the Tamil Nadu Governor's decision "unfair" and against the spirit of democracy.

Governors of States have been setting different precedents to suit the interests of the BJP at the Centre, he alleged. The KPCC chief described the Tamil Nadu Governor's decision as "very unfair".

Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
6th Floor, 2nd Stage, M.S. Building,
Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-560 001.

No. ED/12/KVV/2026 **Date: 06.05.2026**

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION
Selection to the Post of Vice-Chancellor of Kannada University, Hampi

Invitation of application for the post of Vice-Chancellor of Kannada University, Hampi
The Department of Higher Education, Govt of Karnataka invites Applications from eligible Professors/Educationists for the post of Vice-Chancellor of Kannada University, Hampi in accordance with the provisions of Section 13(2) of the Kannada University Act, 1991. Applications should be submitted within 20 days from the date of this notification to "The Secretary to Government, Dept of Higher Education, 6th Floor, Multi-Storeyed Building, Bengaluru – 560001". Email: **kannadaunivc2026@gmail.com.** The detailed application form and other details are available on Higher Education Department website **https://hed.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Secretary to Government
Department of Higher Education

DIPR/CP/552/Zen/2026-27

Nod for scheme to screen newborns

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has accorded administrative approval to implement universal newborn screening for congenital and metabolic disorders in the Kalyana Karnataka region at a cost of ₹5.58 crore under funding from the Kalyana Karnataka Regional Development Board. The scheme aims to screen newborns for five metabolic disorders – hypothyroidism, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, galactosemia, phenylketonuria and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency.

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Health Officer (Public Health),
Public Utility Building, 9th & 10th Floor, Near Mayohall,
M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560001.

No: BCCC/2026-27/SE0169 **Date: 07-05-2026**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC) invites Tender from eligible bidders for the following.
Tender Name: **Request for Proposal, for Selection of Master System Integrator for Design, Development, Implementation, Operations and Maintenance of Smart Virtual Clinic, Bengaluru Central City Corporation.**
Tender Reference No: **BCCC/2026-27/SE0169**
Calendar of Events: 1) Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 07-05-2026. 2)** Date, Time and Venue of Pre Bid Meeting on **14-05-2026 at 12.30 PM at the Office of the Health Officer (Public Health), BCCC, 9th Floor, Public Utility Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560001. 3)** Last Date and Time for Uploading Online Queries in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: **14-05-2026 upto 5.00 PM. 4)** Last Date and Time for Uploading Tender in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: **08-06-2026 upto 5.00 PM. 5)** Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: **09-06-2026 at 5.10 PM.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/-
Health Officer (Public Health), BCCC.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Division: Yadgir.
GSTIN:29BLR002252F1DR

No.EE/PWD/Divn/YDG/TS-4/e-Tender/2026-27/ 330, Dated:06.05.2026

Short Term e-Tender Notification

1) Details of works: On behalf of Governor of Karnataka as per KTPP Amendment 1999-2000 Act 2000 Standard Bid Document KW-3 Karnataka Public Works Department invited item Rate Tender under KPPP Portal in Two Cover System from Eligible Agency/Contractors for following Works Under 8443 MLC-LAD for the year 2025-26 Work Indent Nos.35718 (Providing Digital Computer Fully furnished with fully Equipper lab and Larest version Hi-tech/Smart Class in Government Boys Undergraduate College at Shahapur City, Shahapur Taluka, Yadgiri District. (Under MLC LAD 2025-26). **2) Amount Put to Tender:** Miminimum Rs 100.00 Lakhs **3) Contractor Eligible Details:** MSME Certificate **4) Tender Procesing Fee and EMD Details:** Tender Fee, EMD & Period as per kppp portal, **5) Date & Time for receipt of queries:**12.05.2026 (17.30 hrs) **6) Last Date & Time for submission of the tender in e-procurement portal:**14.05.2026 (16.00 hrs) **7) Date & Time of Opening of the Tender/Technical Bid:**16.05.2026 (11.30 hrs Onwards) **8) Date & Time of Opening of the Financial Bid:**18.05.2026 (11.30 hrs Onwards) **9) For More Details Contact:** Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division : Yadgir. **10) Website Address:**https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
NOTE: Any Corrections / Changes will be updated in the kppp Portal only

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Yadgir.

DIP/YDG/55/KSMC&A/2026-27

Government of Karnataka - Zilla Panchayat Shivamogga
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Panchayat Raj Engineering Divison, Sagara.
No.: EE/PRE/DS/S.Sagara/KW-1,2&3/AE/JE/2026-27/
Date: 04.05.2026

Tender Notice (Through "K.P.P.P.")

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Divison, Sagara invites Itemwar e-Tender subject to KW-1&2&3 (Standard Tender Document) Rules from eligible, contractors registered in Public Works Department and Registered in "K.P.P.P." Institution for the works under Chief Minister's Infrastructure Development Project (C.M.I.D.P.) for the year 2025-26 and S.C.P./T.S.P. Scheme for the year 2023-24 coming in the limits of this Division.

1. Date for downloading Tender Form from: 05.05.2026 to 12.05.2026 **2**. Last date to submit Tender Form: 12.05.2026, 17.00 Hrs. **3**. Date of opening bid: 13.05.2026, 17.01 Hrs.
1. GENERAL Category Works: 24212/CALL-3, 24230/CALL-3, 26572,26577

For details of "K.P.P.P." website tender contact the office of the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Sagara and can be viewed in "K.P.P.P." website (www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in) and can be downloaded. Further information can be obtained from the concerned case worker of this office on phone No. 08183-226064 during office hours or contact helpdesk phone No.: 080-25501216, 25501227.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division, Sagara

DIPR/smg/ksmca/26-27/19/05/186

Kerala Congress drives hard bargain after electoral revival

Party has staked claim for two Ministerial berths and the post of Chief Whip in the incoming UDF Cabinet; the argument is based on strong presence of Christian community and Church's support

The Hindu Bureau
KOTTAYAM

The Kerala Congress, under chairperson P.J. Joseph, centre, said it deserves 'fair representation' in the Cabinet. FILE PHOTO

Riding high on its 2026 election performance, the Kerala Congress under P. J. Joseph has entered the post-poll negotiation table with firm demands for Cabinet representation. The party has staked claim for two Ministerial berths and the post of Chief Whip in the incoming United Democratic Front (UDF) Cabinet.

After nearly a decade on the margins of power since 2016, the Kerala Congress has staged a decisive return, contesting eight seats and securing seven in Kerala. Meeting at the party chairman's residence in Thodupuzha, the newly elected legislators decided that the party would press for two key ministerial portfolios.

"As the third largest partner in the front, we are entitled to two ministerial posts. We have seven members in the House and a strong mandate. Naturally, we deserve fair representation in the Cabinet," said Apu John Joseph, who won from Thodupuzha. Senior leader Mons Joseph was elected parliamentary party leader in the Assembly, while Thomas Unniyadan of Irinjalakuda was named deputy leader. Mr. Apu was chosen party whip, Shibu Thekkumpuram legislative party secretary, and Reji Cherian treasurer.

"If the League gets five posts, the Kerala Congress should get two. We represent a significant section of the Christian community, and the Church extended strong support to the UDF in this election," a senior leader noted. In the previous UDF ministry as well, the Kerala Congress had held two ministerial posts along with the Chief Whip position.

Karnataka govt. to set up Cabinet sub-committee to study and recommend implementation of SEP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government on Thursday decided to set up a Cabinet sub-committee to study and recommend to the government on implementing the State Education Policy (SEP).

The Cabinet on Thursday held detailed discussions on the recommendations made by the Sukhdeo Thorat-led State Education Policy Commission.

Prof. Thorat also gave a presentation to the Cabinet Ministers on Thursday following which it was decided to authorise the Chief Minister to set up a Cabinet sub-committee.

The Cabinet also cleared an aquarium to be set up at Bannerghatta at a cost of ₹144.40 crore

When asked if the sub-committee recommendations would be available before the commencement of academic year, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil said, "It may take some time. There are eight chapters and covers human resources, financial implications, present academic activities and curriculum among many others."

The Cabinet also approved The Karnataka Motor Transport and Other Allied Workers' Social Security and Welfare (Amendment) Bill, 2026, to bring the Karnataka Motor Transport and Other Related Workers' Social Security and Welfare Board from Labour Department to Transport Department.

Between April, 2025 and December, 2025, the Transport Department collected a total cess of ₹92.25 crore through 3% cess, and fee of ₹500 each on two-wheelers and ₹1,000 each on four-wheelers. The proposed Immersive Wildlife Room and a Digital Zoo Guide at Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens and Bannerghatta Biological Park at the cost of ₹44.62 crore and ₹35.22 crore, respectively, to provide technology enabled visitor engagement system was also approved. The Cabinet also cleared an aquarium to be set up at Bannerghatta at a cost of ₹144.40 crore.

Among other decisions was clearing 2% reservation for sportspersons by bringing in amendment to the Karnataka Civil Services (General) Recruitment rules.

Pinarayi promises to listen to people, make corrections

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Pinarayi Vijayan

Breaking his silence after the Left Democratic Front (LDF) suffered a debilitating blow in the Assembly elections, Communist Party of India (Marxist) Polit Bureau member Pinarayi Vijayan wrote on social media on Thursday that the "unexpected" verdict marked a new beginning for the Left's continued political work, not an end.

The alliance, he said, was committed to restoring the people's faith in it and marching ahead with renewed vigour. Constant vigil was needed to ensure that the development projects and welfare schemes implemented in the past 10 years, which had brought sweeping changes in society, did not halt and were taken forward.

The Left, he said, would make no bones about an open examination of the election results and would listen seriously to criticisms and concerns raised by the public, Left supporters and members, and act upon them.

Reasons for defeat

He attributed the results to an environment created by forces that opposed the Left, such as the UDF, the BJP and a section of the media, besides "false campaigns unleashed by certain anarchic and apolitical centres" which gave some people some misgivings. Serious efforts would be made to sensitise them to the facts, he said.

The Left, he added, would not be set back by lies and PR-driven false campaigns.

However, it would democratically examine the lapses in its own policies and interventions and carry out necessary corrections before marching ahead with greater confidence and clarity.

As the Opposition, he said, the front would ensure that the Left's vision for a Nava Keralam – conceived through a knowledge economy, employment for youth, social justice, public health and education – was taken forward. The new government would be pressured into implementing the policies initiated by the LDF government for extreme poverty eradication and women empowerment.

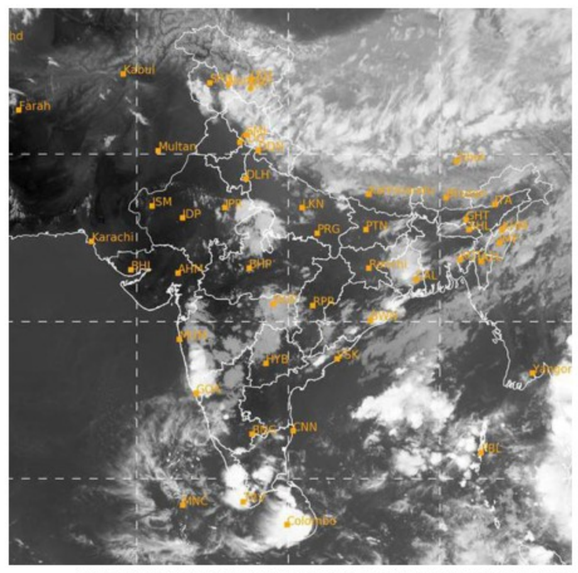
The Left would be a responsible Opposition, supporting the new government's actions to better the standard of living of the people while opposing its anti-people policies, he added.

"Protecting secularism and plurality is the basic trait of the Left, and certain aspects of the verdict, therefore, caused anxiety to secularists," he said. That the BJP has won three seats should be taken seriously.

He thanked the voters who reposed their faith in the Left and congratulated the UDF on its win.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.45 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm with lightning & gusty winds likely at isolated places over Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	30	32.4	22.0	Kozhikode	38	33.8	25.2
Ahmedabad	—	43.2	27.8	Kurnool	—	40.5	28.2
Aizawl	9.8	28.7	17.4	Lucknow	12	29.5	18.0
Allahabad	—	33.6	22.2	Madurai	—	34.5	24.6
Bengaluru	—	32.5	22.5	Mangaluru	—	30.6	26.6
Bhopal	—	39.0	23.2	Mumbai	—	34.4	26.7
Bhubaneswar	—	36.7	26.4	Mysuru	—	34.2	21.8
Chandigarh	—	30.2	22.0	New Delhi	—	33.6	23.8
Chennai	—	37.1	28.5	Patna	19	32.6	19.6
Coimbatore	5	33.4	22.6	Port Blair	0.2	32.5	26.8
Dehradun	—	29.3	18.2	Puducherry	—	34.2	27.2
Gangtok	3	17.2	13.1	Pune	—	40.9	26.0
Goa	—	36.2	26.5	Raipur	—	39.2	24.4
Guwahati	2	32.8	21.0	Ranchi	4	32.6	19.0
Hubballi	—	35.0	23.0	Shillong	6	22.0	12.5
Hyderabad	—	36.8	26.3	Shimla	T	24.5	14.2
Imphal	1	29.5	19.8	Srinagar	—	27.9	11.0
Jaipur	—	40.4	26.1	Thiruvananthapuram	8	34.1	25.0
Kochi	7	31.4	25.0	Tiruchi	—	36.8	26.6
Kohima	—	22.0	13.0	Vijayawada	—	36.4	27.4
Kolkata	18	32.2	23.2	Visakhapatnam	—	35.1	27.1

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.82	..68	...3	...140	...188	
Bengaluru	.16	..19	.50	42	...106	
Chennai	.17	..10	.16	31	40	
Delhi	.36	8	.48	...195	...156	
Hyderabad	.16	..14	.35	66	89	
Kolkata	.13	..27	.34	74	63	
Lucknow	.12	9	.39	...108	67	
Mumbai	...2	9	.68	73	...112	
Pune	..—	..30	123	64	...106	
Visakhapatnam	...9	..47	.11	35	86	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 301 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 24

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

BJP cadre ransack BRS MLA's camp office

The Hindu Bureau
KARIMNAGAR

Tension erupted in Karimnagar town in Telangana after BJP cadre vandalised the camp office of Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLA Gangula Kamalakar, and made a vain bid to attack BRS MLA from Huzurabad P. Kaushik Reddy in the town on Thursday.

The furious BJP cadre, armed with sticks, stormed the camp office to protest against what they termed as "unwarranted and derogatory remarks" by Mr. Reddy against Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sajay during a press conference held at the camp office earlier in the day.

Mr. Reddy had accused Mr. Sanjay of using tobacco mixed with drugs and dared him to undergo a drug test. The remarks triggered a violent protest by the BJP workers, who went berserk, ransacking the office furniture and smashing the window panes of Mr. Reddy's car.

The angry BJP cadre also attempted to attack Mr. Reddy, who was inside the conference hall of the camp office, where he addressed a press conference earlier in the day.

Even as the police locked the main entrance gate of the camp office, the protesters tried to scale the gate. As tension mounted, the police resorted to mild laticharge.

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.2, 2/1 and 2/3, Kalidasa Marg, 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar,
Bengaluru - 560009. Phone No. 080-22265383, website: www.kiadb.in

No.KIADB/COF/Final Price/1847/2026-27 Date: 07.05.2026

NEWS PAPER NOTIFICATION

Sub: Determination of Final Price in respect of Avverahalli Industrial Area (Dobaspet IV Phase), Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, Karnataka.

The Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) hereby intimates the allottees of Avverahalli Industrial Area (Dobaspet IV Phase), Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, Karnataka, that the KIAD Board in its 398th meeting held on 07.03.2026 has determined the final price of Avverahalli Industrial Area (Dobaspet IV Phase), Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, Karnataka, as detailed below;

Sl. No.	Tentative Cost of Allotment per acre (Rs in lakhs)	Final Price determined per Acre (Rs in lakhs) (including Rs.14.50 lakhs per acre towards prorata cost of water supply scheme)	Final Price Difference in cost of land payable per acre (Rs in lakhs)
1	57.00 (allotted at development cost)	105.35	48.35
2	75.00 (Allotted to KASSIA at concessional rate of 50%)	128.00	53.00
3	150.00	241.50	91.50

All the allottees of Avverahalli Industrial Area (Dobaspet IV Phase) shall pay the final price difference in cost of land for the allotments made by the KIADB through RTGS/NEFT to the KIADB Bank Account mentioned below;

Beneficiary Name: **KIADB**, Bank Name: **Union Bank of India**, Branch Name/ Branch Code: **Race Course Road, Bengaluru**, Account Type: **Current Account**, Account No.: **510341000075865**, IFSC Code: **UBIN0930911.**

The amount of final price difference in cost of land payable shall be paid as detailed below;

1) If the difference in cost of land is paid within 6 months from the date of this notification, No interest shall be levied.

2) If the difference in cost of land is not paid within 6 months from the date of this notification, interest @5% p.a. shall be levied upto 6 months period and thereafter interest @10% p.a. shall be levied till the date of payment.

This paper notification shall be treated as Demand Notice from the KIADB.

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer &
Executive Member

DIPR/CP/563/Zen/2026-27

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Call-2)
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Recalling of tender for **"Extension of HT, LT lines and providing additional DTC's under System Improvement works on percentage quoting basis under partial Turnkey major materials (Transformers & Rabbit ACSR conductor) supplied by BESCOM in Hosadurga and Srirampura Sub Divisions of Chitradurga Division, Davanagere Circle, CTAZ Zone".**

Enq. No's for SC Category: **SEE/BESCOM/DVG/WORK/SI/HSD/O&M-2/2026-27/02**
Enq. No's for ST Category: **SEE/BESCOM/DVG/WORK/SI/HSD/MADADAKERE/2026-27/04**
Enq. No's for Category-I: **SEE/BESCOM/DVG/WORK/SI/SRP/MATHOD/2026-27/07**
Enq. No's for Category-IIA: **SEE/BESCOM/DVG/WORK/SI/HSD/O&M-1/2026-27/01**
Enq. No's for Others: **1.SEE/BESCOM/DVG/WORK/SI/SRP/BELAGUR/2026-27/05**
2.SEE/BESCOM/DVG/WORK/SI/SRP/KANCHIPURA/2026-27/06
3.SEE/BESCOM/DVG/WORK/SI/SRP/SRIRAMPURA/2026-27/08

Availability of Bid documents:**11.05.2026 @ 17:00 Hrs. onwards.** Pre-Bid meeting : **16.05.2026 @ 11:00 Hrs.** Last date for submission of Queries : **19.05.2026 before 17:00 Hrs.** Last date for bid submission : **26.05.2026 @ 17:00 Hrs.** Opening of Technical Bids : **29.05.2026 @ 11:00 Hrs.** Venue : **Office of The Superintending Engineer (Ele)., O&M Circle, Hadadi Road, BESCOM, Davanagere-577002.**

The bid documents can be downloaded and necessary assistance can be obtained through the KPP portal from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

E-procurement Help Desk: Phone No: +91-8046010000, +91-8022631200, E-mail: support@ihelpdsk.com, Aspiring bidders needs to be registered on KPP portal. Bidders can take the assistance from the e-procurement during working hours.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer (Ele),
O&M Circle, Hadadi Road, BESCOM,
Davanagere-577002, Ph: 08192-263616

For Electricity Related Complaints Call: 1912
Download BESCOM MITHRA Mobile App.

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Division Ballari
Email: ee_pwdbellary@yahoo.com Telephone No: 08392 -266123

No: EE/PWD/BD/TS-3/KMERC/2026-27/540 **Dated : 29-04-2026**

KPPP Brief Tender Notification for preparation of detailed project reports (DPR's) and Tender works for the proposed works to be takenup under CEPMIZ. (Two Cover Sysytem)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division, Ballari invites the tenders for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPR's) for the works to be taken up under CEPMIZ as per Standard Bidding Document and KPWD Norms and the works tenders from the eligible empanelled and contractors registered in Karnataka Public Works Department, through Karnataka public procurement portal. Two cover tender procedure as per KTPP Act shall be followed. The tender documents can be downloaded through the web-site https:kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For any additional information the tenderers may contact the office of the undersigned during office working hours.

The following works indent numbers are: - PWD/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT35971, PWD/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT35837, PWD/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT35853, PWD/2026-27/SE1194 and PWD/2026-27/SE1187

Tender Process Details :

1)Tender Dcoument can be downloaded in KPP Portal from 05-05-2026 to 03-06-2026 upto 16.00 Hours. 2)Pre bid meeting on 18-05-2026 at 11.30 Hours (o/o Executive Engineer Office, PWD Division Ballari). 3)Last dates for queries of Tenders 29-05-2026 upto 16.00 Hours. 4)Last date & Time for Receipt of Tenders 03-06-2026 upto 16.00 Hours. 5)Date & Time for opening of Technical bid 04-06-2026 at 16.30 Hours. 6)Date & Time of Opening of Financial Proposal: will be informed separately to those consultants whose technical proposal is accepted. 7) Corrigendums, Addendums and Modifications in Notification if any will be published in KP-procurement Portal only.

Terms of Reference may be downloaded in KP-Procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (https:kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from 05-05-2026.

Registered Consultancy firms in E-Procurement are eligible to participate in any number of tender, But on consultancy firm is eligible to obtain Tender.

Any information can be obtained from o/o Executive Engineer Office, PWD Division Ballari during office hours on all working days and also through https:kppp.karnataka.gov.in KP-Procurement Portal Helpdesk Telephone No. 080-25501216 & 080-25501217.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Ballari.

DIPR/Ballari/2026-27/KSMCA/RO No/123

Unwinnable war

The U.S. should pursue a deal with Iran, and not take a maximalist stand

When Donald Trump announced 'Operation Project Freedom', aimed at "guiding" stranded merchant vessels out of the Strait of Hormuz, he warned that any interference from Iran would be dealt with "forcefully". Over the previous weeks, Mr. Trump had issued several ultimatums to Tehran to reopen the waterway, which it closed after the U.S. and Israel launched the war on February 28. As Iran refused to budge, Mr. Trump launched the operation to militarily reopen the strait. But it lasted barely 50 hours. Iran responded by firing at two American destroyers in the strait and attacking a UAE tanker off Oman's coast. The UAE, a close strategic partner of both the U.S. and Israel, also said it was attacked twice. With the ceasefire coming under strain amid hostilities, Mr. Trump, on Wednesday, said he was pausing the operation "at the request of Pakistan". While Mr. Trump continues to make sweeping claims about winning the war, the fact that the Strait of Hormuz remains closed – and that the operation to reopen it did not last even three days – points to a very different reality on the ground. The U.S. not only failed to achieve any of its declared objectives during the 40 days of war, but is now grappling with a crisis created by the war itself – the closure of the strait.

Unlike Mr. Trump, who has made several self-contradictory statements since the war began, Iran has remained consistent in its demands. Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei said last week that Iran would "protect" its missile and nuclear capabilities and continue to exercise control over the Strait of Hormuz. Tehran appears convinced that the war has strengthened its hand and that time is on its side. Mr. Trump has made a series of miscalculations. In the first week of the war, he said he would accept nothing short of Iran's "unconditional surrender". But as the conflict dragged on, he started demanding a deal. Both sides agreed to a ceasefire on April 8, but the U.S., which imposed a blockade on Iranian ports on April 12, failed to exact any meaningful concession from Iran. Contrary to his rhetoric, he holds few strong cards in this war of attrition. If the crisis persists, it will inflict lasting damage on the U.S. and the global economy, potentially endangering Mr. Trump's presidency. If he resumes the war, Tehran will retaliate by targeting Gulf kingdoms, which would be catastrophic for the global economy. America is not winning this war. No amount of social media threats or military posturing is going to alter that reality. Washington should recognise this and pursue a deal with Iran based on accommodating mutual demands and reciprocal concessions if it wants to avoid pushing the world economy towards the precipice.

Building hazards

India needs to do more to both prevent and fight fires

Each major fire accident in cities that ends up claiming human lives fleshes out different sets of causative and exacerbating factors. The recent one in Shahdara in East Delhi highlighted a lack of sufficient attention to planning for evacuating buildings in the case of emergencies, mainly fire. Nine people were killed and some 15 were rescued with grievous injuries in that accident. The residential building – stilt plus four floors comprising eight houses – had security enhancing features that turned out to be deadly: electronic locks on doors that could not be opened; a terrace that was not easily accessible; and metallic grills around the building including on balconies that had to be cut for access by fire service personnel seeking to rescue the victims. A fire in March in Palam, in which nine of an extended family died, highlighted access problems that fire services face in Delhi. The mixed-use building had few of the recommended firefighting facilities required in such buildings. Eyewitnesses complained that the hydraulic lifts used by fire services personnel to access higher floors were malfunctioning. Though the fire services insist they reached the Shahdara accident spot on time, response times have been longer in the capital city at other times. In a fire in Dwarka in 2025, fire engines could not enter the residential society because the name board of the society was blocking them.

While there is certainly a case for reviewing the fire preparedness and fire-fighting capabilities of Delhi, what often goes unaddressed are electrical problems that cause these fires across Indian cities. As summer sets in, air-conditioning blasts are often casually cited as in the Shahdara fire. What often happens is overloading of equipment such as the airconditioner during hot summer days. The wires that are not designed to handle such loads burn due to heat and the circuit breakers that should have tripped the equipment as protection do not do so. In India, the hierarchy of loads and circuit breakers is often not observed as residences are packed with high load equipment beyond what the system can safely carry. The intent is often to keep the equipment running under all conditions whereas tripping of overloaded equipment is a necessary safety feature. City authorities talk of drones and robots to fight fires when even the basic preventive measures are not in place.

Seeking a new paradigm for Dravidian exceptionalism

Narayan Lakshman

The victory of cinema superstar C. Joseph Vijay in the recent State Assembly election marks a watershed moment for politics in Tamil Nadu. Breaking with nearly 60 years of voting for one of only two major Dravidian parties is not just a signal of dissatisfaction but also an abiding quest for enlightened State leadership that recognises the contours of Tamil exceptionalism, and delivers the quality of governance required to meet that imperative.

At the heart of Mr. Vijay's emphatic win, which resulted in his party, the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), cornering 108 out of the 234 seats in the Assembly, lies a disenchantment with the smug complacence of rule by both the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and, for a decade until 2021, the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK). Between them, the DMK and the AIADMK have alternated periodically in occupying power in Chennai to deliver on the promises of their Dravidian forebears C.N. Annadurai and Periyar E.V. Ramaswamy, which includes values such as state autonomy, freedom from Hindi imposition and other diktats of a distant New Delhi, and welfare policies including the noon-meal scheme and direct transfers to vulnerable groups.

It would be remiss not to mention that this noble project of upliftment of the common man in the State was built on the dubious substructure of a shadow economy encompassing institutionalised corruption and grand larceny on an eyewatering scale. That a former late Chief Minister of the State owned sprawling properties in central London, and that even top global corporations seeking industrial permits admit to being asked for sizeable cash bribes to speed up their licence issues, reveals the institutionalised nature of this rent-seeking model.

Would it then be improper to suggest that the TVK's surprise win was the result of an electorate growing weary of this Faustian bargain struck with the ruling powers, where they gave with one hand and took with the other?

Yet, there is more to be explained. Why at this moment in time has the public rejected the proven track records of two parties that, in the nearly six decades since they overthrew the Congress and dominated the State, have by and large managed to keep Tamil Nadu on a steady growth path while working towards fulfilling the Dravidian political vision?

Dissecting the victory

There could be several possible factors that might explain the expectation-defying 34.92% vote share that the TVK garnered across virtually every region of the State and likely across most demographic cohorts, especially among the youth, and women of all ages and backgrounds.

> At the heart of Mr. Vijay's emphatic win, lies a disenchantment with the smug complacence of rule by both the DMK and, for a decade until 2021, the AIADMK

Firstly, Mr. Vijay presented the over 56 million electors of Tamil Nadu with a unique campaign style, modelled on viral social media marketing strategies. In doing so, he broke with the convention of old-school "offline" campaigning techniques including but not limited to widespread rallies across the State. Mr. Vijay appeared to eschew such public interactions in favour of online messaging on social media platforms such as Instagram, to the point where he courted controversy when, during one of his last campaign speeches, he exhorted young children to compel their parents to vote for the TVK's 'whistle' symbol.

Second, an air of vulnerability and an unspoken sense of victimhood appeared to build up around Mr. Vijay as he pleaded innocence for the deadly stampede at the TVK rally in Karur in September 2025, in which at least 41 people died and many more were injured. This is despite the fact that the actor remained silent for three days following the incident, emerging later from his isolation without an apology for mismanaging a major public event organised by his party, and instead making veiled references to a conspiracy by the DMK-led government. The delay in the release of his film *Jana Nayagan* was similarly attributed to sinister forces seeking to sabotage Mr. Vijay's commercial prospects and thus undermine his public persona. Such developments appeared to have created momentum for a burgeoning sense of sympathy and outright anger that an outsider to the Dravidian movement framework could be so viciously attacked by incumbent powers.

While these developments certainly give credence to the view that the TVK surge in the election was rooted in a savvy, Gen-Z-driven, social media virality strategy and a strong sentiment of righting an injustice meted out to a political newcomer, it is also important to look at the broader context of tectonic shifts in the political and economic spheres that resulted in the disenchantment with the Dravidian model.

Disillusionment and doubt

The first key factor that might have resulted in voters rejecting the solutions presented by the DMK and the AIADMK for the unprecedented flux in the job market due to technological and economic shocks is hubris. Towards the last few years of each of their terms in office, the public would not have been wrong to be frustrated with the unspoken but implied government view that no other model besides that old combination of mass welfare policies and moderate economic growth driven by a reasonably efficient bureaucracy, with the State exchequers looted by political rent-seekers, was the only path forward for progress.

Combine this with the fact that the DMK appeared to be getting ever more deeply mired in dynastic nepotism, with resentment building around the handover of the reins of power to former Chief Minister M.K. Stalin's son, Udhayanidhi, and the AIADMK chief Edappadi K. Palaniswami's continued struggle to keep factional infighting from attenuating the cohesive core of his party's cadre.

A second critical concern of the electors of the State is that the gradual inroads made by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) into Tamil Nadu may be transforming the balance of power therein and eroding the State's rich tradition of rationalism, anti-ritualism, rejection of upper caste dominance, and opposition to any single religion enjoying disproportionate support from the government. The results for the alliance between the AIADMK and the BJP placed it in third position overall with respectively 47 and one seat for the two parties. This indicates a split in voter preferences on the overall acceptability of the BJP in the State. In this context, the surge towards the TVK might also reflect frustration with the Dravidian majors as they have been unable to come up with a robust strategy to halt the march of the BJP and its ground-level support base, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

Finally, we may be witnessing the dawn of a new era for Dravidian politics as a historical social movement, as the younger generations of voters are likely one step removed from the traditional founding values and ideals of Periyar and Annadurai. Instead, they are by turn gig workers, nomadic factory floor contract operators, apprentices in micro, small and medium enterprises, and entry-level service sector representatives seeking to build a career at a complex moment in Tamil Nadu's economic evolution. They respond more to a sharply witty Instagram post than a party manifesto published on the official website.

For these voters, and for those swamped by doubts on the capacity of the DMK and the AIADMK to continue to deliver good governance in an era of fundamental socio-economic transformation, Mr. Vijay's TVK spells promise. Now it remains to be seen whether they will manage to muster the numbers to actually form a government, and if they do, whether the Cabinet that Mr. Vijay assembles and the bureaucratic machinery that has historically excelled in rolling out essential policies for the people will help him make good on the many promises he made.

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Openness, not isolation, is the bedrock of the West

Milinda Moragoda

Former Sri Lankan Cabinet Minister, diplomat and the Founder of the Pathfinder Foundation, a strategic affairs think tank

Recent statements from Washington show how global politics is being increasingly framed along civilisational terms. The U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio has referred to the idea of a shared "Western civilisation," describing the U.S. and Europe as bound by common history, cultural heritage, and institutional traditions. At the same time, U.S. President Donald Trump has amplified comments about countries such as India, China, and Iran in the context of migration and geopolitical competition that reinforce a tendency to interpret global politics in civilisational terms. Taken together, these statements point to a broader shift: global affairs are being interpreted not only through the language of power and interest, but also through civilisational identities.

The appeal of such framing is understandable. It offers a sense of clarity in an era of rapid technological disruption, demographic change, and geopolitical uncertainty. But apparent clarity is not the same as analytical accuracy. Moreover, it is not an entirely new framing either. As early as the 1990s, political scientist Samuel Huntington had argued that global politics would evolve into a "clash of civilisations," where cultural and religious identities would become the principal fault lines of international relations.

Civilisational explanations can obscure more than they reveal, particularly when they imply that cultural cohesion, rather than institutional adaptability, is the primary source of national strength. A historical record of the modern West suggests otherwise.

A look at history

Much of the West's post-Cold War dynamism has rested not on homogeneity, but on openness – to talent, ideas, capital, and global competitive pressures. Its advantage has been institutional: the capacity to absorb diversity and convert it into innovation within rules-based systems.

> The West's advantage lies not only in military alliances or economic scale, but in institutional resilience and its capacity to attract, integrate, and retain talent

Nowhere is this more evident than in today's innovation economy. AI, in particular, has become the defining frontier of global competition, shaped by deeply international talent flows and research ecosystems. Companies such as Microsoft, OpenAI, and NVIDIA exemplify systems in which breakthroughs depend on globally sourced expertise, cross-border collaboration, and the ability to attract the most capable minds regardless of origin.

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored this complementary reality: innovation now operates through globally distributed production systems. Rapid vaccine development and distribution, by firms such as Moderna and AstraZeneca, depended on international research networks and global manufacturing ecosystems. In the case of AstraZeneca, large-scale production through partnerships such as that with the Serum Institute of India illustrated how innovation and industrial capacity now operate across borders.

This is not an argument against immigration control. Immigration must be governed effectively, and civic norms must be upheld. But managing diversity is fundamentally different from retreating from it.

In an era of intensifying geopolitical competition, openness remains a critical strategic asset. The West's advantage lies not only in military alliances or economic scale, but in institutional resilience and its capacity to attract, integrate, and retain talent. Civilisational framing, by contrast, risks misdiagnosing this advantage – privileging identity over capability and boundaries over performance. Demographic realities reinforce this point. Many advanced economies face ageing populations. In this context, immigration is not simply a cultural or political issue, but an economic necessity. Without sustained inflows of skilled labour and human capital, growth slows, fiscal pressures increase, and innovation ecosystems weaken.

Openness as an advantage

The defining challenges of the 21st century – including AI governance and climate change – further highlight the limits of civilisational thinking. These are problems that cannot be addressed within cultural silos. Against this backdrop, framing global politics in terms of civilisational hierarchy carries risks. It encourages a narrowing of identity at precisely the moment when cooperation and adaptability are essential.

The question, therefore, is not whether identity matters. It clearly does. Societies require shared norms, institutional trust, and continuity. The more important question is whether democracies can manage change without losing confidence in the openness that has sustained their development. The strength of the West has historically rested on its ability to combine stability with adaptation – to absorb new influences while preserving core principles such as the rule of law, individual liberty, and accountable governance.

Therefore, the policy challenge ahead is not to retreat into notions of cultural purity, but to govern openness with clarity and purpose. This requires strengthening integration frameworks and reinforcing institutional trust. It also requires recognising that engagement with other civilisational spaces is not a concession, but a necessity in a globally interconnected world.

In a world of intensifying geopolitical rivalry, it may be tempting to define strength in narrower terms. But doing so risks undermining one of the West's most important strategic assets. Openness – disciplined, governed, and anchored in strong institutions – is not a vulnerability. It is a source of sustained advantage.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Floor test

People were under the impression that Mr. Vijay's TVK party, which emerged as the single largest party in the recently held Tamil Nadu Assembly election, would be called by the Governor to form the government. To the surprise of all, the Governor has insisted that Mr. Vijay produce formal letters of support from enough MLAs before the swearing-in process can move forward.

It is questionable whether the Governor has such powers. The convention is that the Governor has to call the single largest party to form the Government which, in this case, is Mr. Vijay's party and subject him to the floor test to prove his majority within the shortest possible time. The Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in the *Bommai* case made it clear that the floor test is the only reliable test by which a government can prove its majority. Such being the position, the Governor was not right in not inviting Mr. Vijay to form the government.

The Governor has not followed constitutional precedents and has assumed a power which he does not have. It is not out of place to suggest that the Governor's actions are unconstitutional.

N.G.R. Prasad
Chennai

Challenge for Congress

The Congress led UDF's return to power with a mandate of 102 seats is a rejection of the LDF's overbearing leadership. While the previous administration made strides in infrastructure, it collapsed under the weight of internal nepotism and a disconnect from the grassroots. For the UDF, the immediate challenge is to pivot from a campaign team into a cohesive governing body. The unseemly lust for the Chief Ministerial post displayed by senior leaders has been an embarrassment. The new government also faces a daunting fiscal battle exacerbated by a perceived lack of support from the Central government. There is a growing and justifiable sentiment in Kerala that the Centre is failing to provide the State its due, particularly regarding the 16th FC's tax devolution. Delivering on the five guarantees amidst such a strained treasury will require exceptional administrative competence.

S. Padmanabhan
Kochi

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Should the abortion law be amended for minor rape victims?

PARLEY

Dipika Jain

Executive dean & professor of law, director, Centre for Justice, Law and Society, Jindal Global Law School

Alka Barua

Abortion theme lead and steering committee member, CommonHealth India

Why are so many pregnant persons approaching the courts for terminations? Do we need to remove time limits on abortions? Do abortion laws need to be delinked from criminal laws? How can access to safe abortions for all be improved? Dipika Jain and Alka Barua discuss in a conversation moderated by **Zubeda Hamid**. Edited excerpts.

Can we start with an overview of abortion laws in India?

Dipika Jain: There are two sets of laws that regulate abortion in India. Sections 88 to 94 of the BNS and the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971. Abortion is criminalised under Section 88 of the BNS, which means that a woman who terminates her pregnancy with her consent and the doctor who terminates her pregnancy with her consent and his consent can be criminalised. In 1979, there was an exception created via the MTP Act, which created a framework for conditional rights. Abortion is legal in India based on certain circumstances and conditions. The 2022 Supreme Court judgement also elaborates on abortion rights as fundamental rights. There are three components: unmarried women are entitled to seek termination; transgender persons are also included within the legal framework; and the right to terminate a pregnancy in India is part of [the] decisional autonomy of a woman or a pregnant person.

Alka Barua: The law looks fairly liberal, but there isn't broad and progressive interpretation at the ground level. And there are reasons for it. One, the law places decision-making authority primarily with the doctors. So this gives scope for refusal based on personal beliefs or misunderstanding or unawareness of law. The law's implementation doesn't take into account the fact that we have a shortage of certified providers and adequately equipped facilities. And this is particularly more so now when the gestational limit has been increased and later gestational terminations are more complex and require greater skills, better facilities. As long as abortion remains linked to a criminal law, it is socially stigmatized. And many women delay care or seek unsafe pathways in such situations.

Is there a case to be made for the Supreme Court's asking for the removal of time limit on terminations of unwanted pregnancies in the case of minor rape victims?

On paper: The Supreme Court, in 2022, has said that it recognises reproductive decisional autonomy as a fundamental right. GETTY IMAGES

DJ: The MTP Act sets out general outer limits of 24 weeks, with only two exceptions. One is substantial foetal anomalies, which has to be certified by a medical board, and the other is to save the life of the pregnant woman. In the past, the Supreme Court has, on multiple occasions, allowed termination up to 33 weeks of pregnancy in cases of foetal anomalies. [This] exposes a gap between legal categories that are rigid and real life, medical and social situations. So if it is safe, and it is with the consent of the pregnant person, and the termination is allowed in cases of foetal anomalies, why can't terminations be allowed in other cases where late-term termination becomes important? For example, sexual assault, rape, drastic life challenges, mental health crises. In my opinion, anyone whose pregnancy is safe to terminate should be allowed to terminate it.

AB: The law has not taken into account ground-level reality. There is no need for such rigid gestational limits for terminations, particularly in cases of sexual assault survivors, minors, or adolescents, etc. One reason is, they tend to come late: because of the trauma, the stigma, the lack of awareness about their entitlements under the MTP Act; in case of minors and adolescents, they often do not even know that they have conceived till late pregnancy. Then, most do not have access to resources; they have restricted mobility. Delayed access is not out of choice but because institutions, family structures, violence prevent them from timely access. We believe that risk should be assessed clinically. If it can be safely provided based on clinical judgment, then why this inflexible statutory cut-off? The intent of the law has to be interpreted more broadly rather than using it as a barrier to provide services.

Do healthcare providers feel they may be at risk of criminal proceedings if they proceed with abortions?

DJ: Abortion is criminalised under law. But there is also an exception, which if followed, on the basis of certain conditions, termination can be offered. However, because it is conditional and the burden of proof is on the doctor, complications arise. This is not a rights-based framework. It is a conditional, qualified framework and sets out very strict conditions. If you fail in any of these conditions, there can be chances of prosecution. We know that in 2021, a doctor in Meghalaya was put behind bars for a month on a termination he didn't even do. There are also other laws that complicate the criminal framework and liability, for example, the PCPNDT [and] POCSO. Why can't we move from a criminal framework to a rights-based reproductive justice healthcare framework?

AB: The reason for this is not only lack of awareness about what their obligations are, what the service seekers' entitlements are, but also lack of awareness among those who are enforcing the law at the ground level. Most service providers are worried about police involvement in cases of rape and minors. They are confused about documentation requirements. Then there are concerns about the uncertainty around pregnancies near the stipulated gestational limits. There are no clear protocols in place. All this, in addition to the fact that there is a social pressure, let's not forget that doctors belong to the same society as [that of] service-seekers. All this leads to a chilling effect. They don't want to provide services in such cases, particularly the later gestation cases.

Are there other countries that allow for abortion on a demand basis rather than on a conditional basis? Is that what a reproductive health rights framework looks like?

DJ: The Supreme Court in 2022 has said that it recognises reproductive decisional autonomy as a fundamental right. It means that the decision to terminate a pregnancy ultimately belongs to the pregnant person, not the doctor or the State. That's what the law is saying. Now, should that not also be the practice? If a pregnant person decides to terminate, why should the State impose so many conditions? Why can't it be based on decisional autonomy and on demand? There are many countries that have at least early-term abortion on demand or on request, and that's exactly how our law should be.

AB: Irrespective of what the law is, our experience is [that] when a woman decides to terminate a pregnancy, she does get it terminated. If restrictions are there, you are literally pushing her towards unsafe service providers. The MTP Act came into existence to prevent unsafe abortions and maternal deaths because of that. And if that very law, because of the conditions it has included in it, is leading service seekers towards unsafe practices, then the point is lost. I [also] just wanted to distinguish between refusal on any grounds, be it ethical or professional, skill level, and denial of access. An individual service provider may decline to perform a procedure to which they have objections personally. The law says nothing against it right now. But then they should be made to refer the case, or ask someone else in the facility to provide the services.

Would a law that lifts all conditions and allows for abortion on request be in conflict with the POCSO law where the State has to look into sexual assault?

DJ: When the POCSO law was drafted, the focus was on child sexual abuse. Section 19 of the POCSO Act allows for mandatory reporting. What happens when it interacts with the MTP Act? In the MTP Act, when an adolescent or minor gets pregnant, they can seek termination. But when the adolescent walks into the hospital, the doctor has to report her mandatorily to the police. Now, what happens is, in case of a 16-year-old in a relationship with a 17-year-old boy, this 16-year-old girl will not go ahead and seek termination because she knows that the mandatory reporting will mean that the boy will be held for statutory rape. This is the problem. In 2022, the Supreme Court harmonised POCSO with the MTP Act. The court ruled that minors can access abortion services without their identities being disclosed. So to some extent, this has been addressed. However, it's not something that is working on the ground.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
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NOTEBOOK

Off the script on Bengal elections

Polls come and go but close encounters with marginalised people stick with a reporter forever and their unanswered questions continue to echo

Shrabana Chatterjee

Standing inside the oldest coal mine of India in Raniganj, West Bengal, amid black dust, I could feel a song reach my ears. The women singing in a synchronised voice as they continued to dig for coal. It was solace, one that lingers on. Like Bertolt Brecht once wrote: In the dark times, will there also be singing? Yes, there will also be singing. About the dark times.

The song was often disrupted by an explosion for mining and the synchrony in the air was replaced with thick black smoke. As a lone reporter with no photographer accompanying, it was intimidating for me to navigate the coal belts and talk to the villagers in the area which has suffered from land subsidence due to mining.

The road led up to abandoned homes, broken walls, and soft soil where over 160 families still live, refusing to let the government stuff them into pigeon-holed one-room flats as part of their rehabilitation programme. "What about our land? Who will compensate us for our uprooted lives?" – these are the prominent questions in their minds.

As the State election wave recedes and campaigning parties go back, a common refrain in these parts is 'they didn't deliver on poll promises'. From the coal mines of Raniganj to the forests of Jhargram to the deleted voters of Murshidabad to the violence-hit people of Malda, anger over failed promises echoed from people.

Beyond Raniganj, though the landscape shifts, the disgruntlement is the same in Murshidabad too. In a district where some of the richest contest elections to represent the poorest electorate, the distance between political wealth and everyday poverty is massively wide.

These Muslim-dominated areas have been some of the worst-affected in the special intensive revision (SIR) process. The people say political parties sought their votes but did not restore their names in the electoral rolls. In Samserganj constituency, over 74,000 voters have been deleted, one of the highest in the State. The polls are over but their feeling of betrayal continues to simmer.

In these parts, it is a life of uncertainty for many. Parts of their homes have been lost to Ganga erosion; what remains stands precariously, yet continues to be inhabited. Several residents say their names no longer appear on voter lists. Between the loss of land and the absence of documentation, their security and identity remain unsettled.

On the other side of the river lies Malda. Though constituencies change, river erosion, lack of jobs, and deletion of voters remain a common crisis. The tension in the lanes of Malda's Mothabari constituency was palpable, with local people largely tight-lipped. Many have been arrested for laying a siege to seven judicial officers in protest against the SIR process. Now, they spend sleepless nights fearing harassment and arrest by the National Investigation Agency. No amount of assurance seems to make them speak to reporters.

When access becomes uncertain in such volatile situations, sometimes silences are read as responses.

Many districts away, in Purba Bardhaman's Kalna area, hundreds of potato farmers have sustained massive losses due to over-production and crashing market prices. "What good will all this talk do? You cannot bring back the person I have lost. Have some water and leave," a grieving son of a potato farmer who died by suicide told me. Political parties gave assurances, but that was all.

Parties have made lofty promises of upliftment for the marginalised in Jhargram too. But people say polls come and go but their lives have not changed.

Across communities and districts, the complaints are not against any one political party or government. The frustration of having been failed by the system run deeper, sometimes generational.

Sometimes, such encounters in villages go off the script, where a reporter's presence makes them feel like some help will follow, with many bringing documents and asking if their names can be restored to the electoral rolls and some asking if a compensation can be arranged for the loss of crops or their homes. Many even ask if they will be detained or deported if their names do not feature in the electoral rolls. You sit in silence. The questions do not stop, even though clarity may not follow.

(shrabana.chatterjee@thehindu.co.in)

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

Statement of a statesman

Emotional encounter: DMK President M.K. Stalin who lost from the Kolathur Assembly constituency in Chennai in the recent Tamil Nadu Assembly election visited the constituency on May 5 to thank people who voted for him. Party leader P.K. Sekarbabu is in tears as Mr. Stalin waves at supporters. PTI

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 8, 1976

Vigil over smuggling of antiquities

Madras, May 7.: The Central Government has started enforcing a scheme to keep a strict vigil over smuggling of antiquities and to prevent illegal trade in the priceless art treasures. Steps have been taken by the Archaeological Survey of India to implement an Act that has been passed in 1972.

The Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 has come into force all over India since early April, 1976. According to this, those who possess antiquities such as stone sculptures, bronzes, wood carvings, ivory carvings, coins, palm leaves, manuscripts and books, of more than 75 years old, are to be registered with an officer of the State Archaeological Department. The possessor has to obtain an application form from the concerned officer and submit the details back to him, with four photographs of each object. After scrutiny, the officer will issue a certificate to the owner, who will keep a register of the antiques with him. Those interested in carrying on business of antiquities should obtain a licence.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 8, 1926

No extension of strike

Rugby, May 7.: Reports from all quarters indicate that no further extension of the general strike has occurred. Although in isolated instances strikers have resumed work, there is, on the whole, little change in the general situation. The strike of miners and railwaymen continues to be practically solid. In some Westmoreland pits mine workers are reported to have returned to duty and in other instances railway staffs have been reinforced by the return of a few men. No attempt is being made to reopen mines with volunteer labour, but railways, trams and omnibus systems are being increasingly operated by skilled and unskilled volunteers.

In Pulwama and Poonch, two schools bear the cost of conflict

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

A year on, two schools in Jammu and Kashmir, which bore the brunt of the four-day conflict between India and Pakistan in May last year, stand testimony to the cost of war, tragedy, and trauma.

With Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) on the other side of the nearby hills, the Christ High School in Poonch is finding it hard to bury the memories of the war. "Who would want a war that leaves children dead? In pursuit of justice for the Pahalgam victims, there was addition to the list of civilian deaths. War exposes the vulnerabilities of human beings," Father Shijo, principal of the school, told *The Hindu*.

Three students killed

Three students - Zain Ali and Urwa Fatima, twins who were in Class 5, and Vihaan Bhargav of Class 8 - were killed in Pakistani shelling when they were trying to move to safer locations between May 7 and 11. They were among 21 civilians, including five children, who died on this side of the border during Operation Sindoor, launched against Pakistan following a dastardly terror attack that left 26 civilians, including 25 tourists, dead in Pahalgam.

"Parents of two Class 5 students were evacuating them out of their native village when a shell hit them. The third student was on the way to Jammu in a vehicle when splinters from a shell exploded and hit him," said Father Shijo, as he recalled how the town was hit by shelling for at least two days.

On the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor on Thursday, the staff members of the school, with 1,500 students, held silent prayers for the dead and visited the two families for a remembrance meeting, but avoided any ceremonial function on the campus.

"We did not engage students in any remembrance because it would have recreated the scenes. It took students more than four months to come out of the trauma. We had to arrange local NGOs for counselling with students to comfort them. We also invited the parents last year, many of whom broke down while sharing their ordeal, to make them unburdened emotionally," he said.

Children at Madrasa Taleem ul Quran in Wuyan, Pulwama, which was affected during Operation Sindoor. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The school had to club classes and shut the rooms where the students, who lost their lives, studied. "Students were not willing to study in the same classroom, especially benchmates of the deceased. At every sound of a cracker, students would get frightened. They lived in fear for many months," he said.

The school saw a major power shutdown during the war and relied on its borewell for water. Besides, the shelling shattered the windowpanes and damaged the roof. "We have rebuilt. In fact, we have an underground space in place, but it can accommodate only 200 people," he added.

Awaiting compensation

Around 141 km away from the Poonch school, another school in Pulwama district tells a story of loss. The school was damaged in a blast, but since the nature of the explosion is still unknown, it does not fall in the compensation list of those who suffered damage and were provided relief money. A two-storey building of the high school, Madrasa Taleem ul Quran, in Wuyan was hit by an unidentified aerial object before sunrise on May 7.

"I heard in the morning of May 7, the school was hit. I rushed to check the damage but was stopped by the security forces. Later, I saw the computer lab was completely damaged. We acquired a children safety certificate from the education department only after dismantling the building first. It was not safe. However, no compensation was provided," Shabir Ahmad Sheikh, coordinator of the school, told *The Hindu*. Last June, the school sought financial assistance in the wake of ₹23 lakh loss incurred. "Revenue Department officials visited the school and had promised to provide the financial assistance once provided with the estimation of the school building damages," read the letter.

Mr. Sheikh said all expansion plans for the school, with 350 students, failed to take off because of the damage. Local legislator Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra too wrote to the government for compensation but to no avail.

With the nature of the blast yet to be established, the school awaits compensation.

From Page One

DMK explores backing AIADMK in hung House

Mr. Stalin, who had initially rejected the proposal, reportedly yielded to pressure from second-line party leaders and invited CPI(M) State secretary P. Shanmugam, CPI State secretary M. Veerapandian, and VCK leader Thol. Thirumavalavan to his house for discussions on Thursday. The DMK will not join the government, but the allies are free to take a decision, he reportedly told them.

The three parties hold the key to any further churn in Tamil Nadu politics. In fact, their combined support is crucial for both the TVK and the AIADMK to form a government. "A new situation has arisen after the election and we have to decide what should be the position of the Left parties. But it has never been part of our agenda that we would support the AIADMK," a senior communist leader said.

Currently, the TVK, with the support of the five elected candidates of the Congress, effectively has 112 seats in the 234-member House after accounting for the legal mandate for Mr. Vijay to resign from one of his two seats.

Should the AIADMK aspire to form a government without the support of the BJP's lone representative, it would require the support of its other allies Pattali Makkal Katchi (four seats) and Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (one), in addition to that of the DMK (59), the Indian Union Muslim League (two), and the six seats of the CPI, CPI(M), and VCK. It would give the alliance 120 seats.

While the two Communist parties sought time, stating their State committee meetings scheduled for Friday would take a final decision, Mr. Thirumavalavan indicated that he would follow the Communists' stand.

Growth trajectory

The resolution adopted by the DMK's MLAs-elect on Thursday further said that Tamil Nadu's growth trajectory could be sustained only if the welfare schemes implemented by the DMK government over the past five years continued without interruption. "The meeting unanimously empowers the party leader to take an emergency decision, taking into consideration the prevailing political and administrative situation," the resolution added.

Another resolution sharply criticised the Congress, the DMK's former ally, accusing it of betrayal after it quit the alliance and extended support to the TVK. "Congress was allotted a Rajya Sabha seat and 28 Assembly seats in the alliance. Yet, within three days of results being declared, it pawned the mandate earned through the hard work of alliance partners to the rival camp. Even during seat-sharing talks, the Congress failed to condemn remarks made against the alliance," the resolution alleged.

The legislators' meeting referred to developments in Puducherry, where Congress candidates reportedly contested seats allotted to the DMK."The rival candidates even met their party leader and sought his blessings. The Congress did not conduct itself sincerely even during the election campaign," another resolution said.

Cong. high command to choose Kerala CM

Congress MLAs-elect who walked out after the meeting with the AICC members at the Indira Bhavan, the headquarters of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC), remained tight-lipped about their choices for the coveted post. After the Congress-led UDF's victory in the Assembly elections, a three-way fight had begun for the Chief Minister's post, with Mr. Satheesan, AICC general secretary (organisation) and Alappuzha MP K.C. Venugopal, and senior leader Ramesh Chennithala in contention. Congress workers held protests in support of Mr. Satheesan in Nettoor in Ernakulam district and at Peravoor in Kannur, the constituency of KPCC president Sunny Joseph.

P.K. Kunhalikutty, general secretary of key UDF ally Indian Union Muslim League, said that the party has conveyed its Chief Minister choice to AICC the observers.

'Operation Sindoor was a fitting response to terror'

To mark the first anniversary, PM lauds the armed forces for their bravery and dedication in attacking terrorist camps and military infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

To mark the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday lauded the armed forces for their bravery and dedication in attacking terrorist camps and military infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

In a post on X, Mr. Modi said that a year ago, India's armed forces displayed "unparalleled courage, precision and resolve" during Operation Sindoor and gave a fitting response to those responsible for the Pahalgam terror attack.

He said the entire nation saluted the forces for their bravery and dedication. Mr. Modi added that Operation Sindoor reflected India's uncompromising stand against terrorism and reaffirmed the country's commitment to national security.

PM Narendra Modi highlighted the professionalism and preparedness of the armed forces during the operation. FILE PHOTO

Mr. Modi also highlighted the professionalism, preparedness and growing jointness among the armed forces during the operation. He said the mission underlined the strength India had achieved through self-reliance in the defence sector under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

Late on the night of May 6 and into the early hours of May 7, 2025, India launched Operation Sindoor – a coordinated military offensive involving the Army, Air Force, and the Navy.

Mr. Modi changed his display picture across social media platforms to honour the courage and valour of the Indian armed forces.

The Prime Minister also urged citizens to change their profile pictures on social media as a tribute to the forces and the success of the operation.

Exclusive footage

Marking the occasion, the Indian Air Force released exclusive footage of Operation Sindoor at 1.05 a.m on Thursday. The 88-second video showcased precision strikes, coordinated military action and operational preparedness during the high-intensity counter-terror operation.

Despite outreach by India, Pakistan hasn't been isolated: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday took a swipe at the Centre on the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, alleging that despite India's extensive diplomatic outreach after the military operation, Pakistan had not been isolated internationally as it was after the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks.

"In spite of extensive diplomatic outreach by India, Pakistan did not get isolated as it had been following the Mumbai terror attack in November 2008. On the contrary, its Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir has been embraced with warmth by President Trump from June 2025 onwards and the world's leading sponsor of cross-border terrorism, namely Pakistan, has come in for praise from the U.S. military establishment," Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said in a post on X.

Recalling developments surrounding the operation, Mr. Ramesh said the first announcement of the ceasefire that halted Operation Sindoor on May 10, 2025, had come from then U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio at 5.37 p.m. IST.

He claimed that Mr. Trump had repeatedly asserted that his intervention led to the ceasefire, and alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had never publicly refuted the claim.

The Congress leader also referred to remarks made by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan on May 30, 2025, in which he acknowledged that India had suffered initial losses due to tactical errors before adapting and carrying out precision strikes inside Pakistan.

Learnt several important lessons during conflict with Pakistan: military officials

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

On the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, senior military officials asserted that India's response to cross-border terrorism had fundamentally altered the security landscape, with Lieutenant-General Rajiv Ghai declaring that no terror sanctuary inside Pakistan remains safe anymore.

Lt. Gen. Rajiv Ghai

Addressing a joint press conference in Jaipur with senior officers from the Indian Army, Air Force and Navy, Lieutenant-General Ghai, who served as the Director-General of Military Operations during Operation Sindoor, said the operation was "not an end, but just the beginning".

He stated that the operation continues in terms of preparedness and strategic planning. "We have imbibed several lessons during Operation Sindoor and accordingly, changes are being made. The operation will remain in progress for as long as required," he said.

Detailing the scale of the military action, Air Marshal Awadhesh Kumar Bharti said the Indian Air Force destroyed nine terrorist camps on May 7 and later struck 11 Pakistani airfields. "We destroyed 13 of their aircraft, either on the ground or in the air, including one high-value airborne asset at a record distance of over 300 kilometres," he said, adding that evidence of the strikes was available for the world to see.

Vice-Admiral A.N. Pramod said Operation Sindoor exposed the limitations of Pakistan's nuclear deterrence narrative. He stated that India's use of long-range precision weapons demonstrated its ability to strike deep inside hostile territory while maintaining calibrated escalation.

He also highlighted the growing importance of uncrewed and autonomous systems in modern warfare and stressed the need for accelerated integration of such technologies into India's operational framework.

The External Affairs Ministry affirmed that India's position on the Indus Waters Treaty was consistent. The IWT was kept in abeyance in response to Pakistan's continued sponsorship of terrorism.

Was a 'proper debate' held in Parliament on CEC and ECs appointment law, asks SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday asked if there had been a "proper debate" in Parliament about the "ethos" of its 2023 judgment that took the appointment of members of the Election Commission out of the exclusive hands of the political executive, namely, "the party which not unnaturally has an interest in perpetuating itself in power".

In a 2023 judgment in *Anoop Baranwal versus Union of India*, a Constitution Bench of the court had replaced the mechanism of the President appointing the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs) on the sole advice of the Prime Minister with a more participatory appointment process involving a three-member selection committee of the Prime Minister, the Opposition Leader in the Lok Sabha, and the Chief Justice of India. The court had said the committee would be in place till Parliament brought in a law to replace it.

The Union government had brought in a law which reverted to the dominant role of the executive in the appointments of the CEC and ECs. Under the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service, and Term of Office) Act of 2023, the CJI was replaced in the selection committee by a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.

"But was there a proper debate in Parliament about the *Anoop Baranwal* judgment? Is the ethos voiced in the judgment reflected in the Parliamentary debates... That is not clear," said Justice Dipankar Datta, heading a Bench comprising himself and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma.

Senior advocate Shadan Farasat, appearing for an intervenor, said the passing of the law had been preceded by an *en masse* suspension of Opposition MPs. "There was no proper debate in the Parliament," he said.

"A majority of the Opposition was suspended. [AIMIM MP Asaduddin] Owaisi was the sole objector," advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for Association for Democratic Reforms, submitted.

Nida Khan, accused in TCS case, arrested

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Over 40 days after a first information report was registered against her in a rape and sexual exploitation case, suspended TCS employee Nida Khan was taken into police custody in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar late on Thursday night.

The arrest was made in a joint operation by the Nashik SIT, the Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar Crime Branch and the Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar Police Commissioner. "Ms. Khan has been taken into custody from Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar. We are in the process of completing the legal action now," said Assistant Commissioner of Police Sandip Mitke, who heads the Nashik Police SIT. She would be produced in court thereafter.

Recently, a Nashik court had refused Ms. Khan's anticipatory bail application after the prosecution claimed that she had links in Malaysia and in Malegaon.

APPEAL

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'T.N. Governor should invite Vijay, ask for a floor test'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The correct course of action for the Tamil Nadu Governor would be to invite C. Joseph Vijay-led Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) to form the government and prove his majority on the floor of the State Assembly, former Union Law Minister Ashwani Kumar said on Thursday.

Reacting to the evolving political situation in Tamil Nadu, Mr. Kumar said constitutional conventions and judicial precedents make it clear that when a party stakes claim, the appropriate constitutional process is to allow it an opportunity to demonstrate majority support through a floor test in the Assembly.

"The due process argument attributed in the media to the Governor of Tamil Nadu is seen as a graceless stratagem on the part of the Governor to delay Vijay's swearing-in despite a deafening popular mandate in his favour. It is obvious that under the present circumstances, none other can or does command legislative majority," Mr. Kumar said in a statement.

"Constitutional conscience owes no apology to technicalities. Delaying the swearing-in of Vijay is a political outrage and a constitutional heresy," he further said.

Governor must ensure formation of a stable government in a State

The Governor should prevent complete breakdown of constitutional machinery leading to President's Rule in a State; it will be a failure of constitutional machinery if no party or group is able to command a majority to form a popular government

NEWS ANALYSIS

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

TVK chief Vijay meets Tamil Nadu Governor Rajendra Arlekar in Chennai on Wednesday to stake claim to form a government. ANI

The insistence that Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) president C. Joseph Vijay must prove majority support in the Legislative Assembly is based on a time-tested legal principle that a Governor's first priority is the formation of a stable government to prevent the State from slipping into a situation of complete breakdown of constitutional machinery, leading to President's Rule.

Supreme Court precedents have said a Governor cannot refuse to allow the formation of a government once the majority is established. The only exception could be where the Governor is of the view that a stable government may not be formed by the claimants. On the other hand, the court has noted that a Governor is not expected to wait indefinitely, and in the process, encourage defections or adoption of other objectionable activities.

The apex court and the Sarkaria Commission have highlighted the importance of giving Governors reasonable time to "explore alternatives with political parties, groups and Independent MLAs" to form a stable government. The phrase "reasonable time" is not defined in the Constitution.

The "alternatives" before the Governor in a hung Assembly will be to invite a pre-poll alliance of parties with the largest number of seats to form the government first. The single largest party will be the second option if it could show majority support. A post-poll alliance or coalition is the last option before the Governor.

A nine-judge Bench in the 1994 S.R. Bommai judgment, while endorsing this hierarchy of preference, liberally added that the Governor could either go for the single largest party or "group". It did not matter whether the "group" was formed before or after the election. It would be a case of failure of constitutional machinery if these alternatives fail, and no party or group is able to command a majority to form a popular government.

"Suppose after general elections, no political party or coalition of parties or groups is able to secure absolute majority in the Legislative Assembly and despite the Governor's exploring the alternatives, the situation has arisen in which no political party is able to form stable government, it would be a case of completely demonstrable inability of any political party to form a stable government commanding the confidence of the majority members of the legislature. It would be a case of failure of constitutional machinery," the court observed in the Bommai judgment.

Partisan politics

However, the Supreme Court, in its seven-judge Bench judgment in *Rameshwar Prasad versus Union of India*, has also cautioned against Governors misusing their office for partisan politics.

"Whether it is a case of an existing government losing majority support or of installation of a new government after fresh elections, the act of the Governor in recommending dissolution of Assembly should be only with the sole object of preservation of the Constitution and not promotion of political interests of one or the other party," the court said.

The Rameshwar Prasad case flagged the criticism recorded in the Sarkaria Commission that Governors have, more often than not, used their powers to recommend President's Rule under Article 356 to "promote the political interests of the party in power at the Centre".

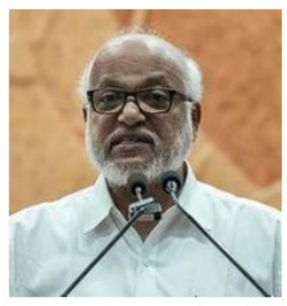
"It is seen that one day a person is in active politics in as much as he holds the office of the Chief Minister or Minister or a party post and almost on the following day or, in any case, soon thereafter, the same person is appointed as the Governor in another State with hardly any cooling period. Ordinarily, it is difficult to expect detachment from party politics from such a person while performing the constitutional functions as Governor," the court had highlighted the need for a "cooling-off period".

Supreme Court judgments have acknowledged that coalition governments have become the norm rather than a rarity.

"Coalition governments are in place in several States and in fact at the Centre. There is nothing wrong in post-poll adjustments, and when ideological similarity weighs with any political party to support another political party though there was no pre-poll alliance... There is nothing wrong in it," the court has observed.

T.N. govt. formation: CPI(M), CPI chiefs denounce Arlekar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI


M.A. Baby

The CPI(M) and CPI on Thursday denounced Tamil Nadu Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar's decision not to call Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) chief C. Joseph Vijay to form the government, calling it "undemocratic" and an "insult" to the mandate given by the State's voters.

CPI(M) general secretary M.A. Baby cited the example of the 13-day BJP-led government of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the Centre in 1996. "Everyone knew that Vajpayee did not have the numbers. Still, he was allowed to form a government and a Parliament session was convened for him to show his strength," Mr. Baby said, while arguing that by virtue of being the single largest party in the Tamil Nadu Assembly, TVK should be called to form the government.

"No one has staked claim to form government, it is highly objectionable and undemocratic to ignore the verdict given by the people," Mr. Baby said.

CPI general secretary D. Raja said the strength of a government has to be tested on the floor of the Assembly and not in the Governor's house. "The mandate is in favour of TVK. This should be recognised. The Governor should call upon the single largest party to form the government... Governors should act in accordance with practices and conventions of a mutli-party democracy," he said.

Both the general secretaries did not clarify whether the Left parties will extend support for TVK or not. "We fought as part of Secular Progressive Alliance to stall BJP... BJP should not be allowed unethical tricks to create trouble for people," Mr. Raja added.

In the results to the 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly, the TVK emerged as the single largest party with 108 seats while the ruling DMK came down to 59 seats and the AIADMK secured 47 seats in the 234-member House.

Since the verdict threw up a hung Assembly, the TVK has been working to gather support from other parties to form a government in Tamil Nadu.

Akhilesh Yadav calls on Mamata Banerjee, says Trinamool fought well

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Show of support: Akhilesh Yadav meets Mamata Banerjee at her residence in Kalighat, Kolkata, on Thursday. PTI

Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Akhilesh Yadav called on Trinamool Congress chairperson Mamata Banerjee and her nephew Abhishek Banerjee in Kolkata on Thursday.

Mr. Yadav reached the Kalighat residence of the former Chief Minister. "You fought very well," he said to Mr. Banerjee, who received the SP leader.

"We have lost," Ms. Banerjee told him.

"No, no, you have not lost," Mr. Yadav replied.

Speaking to media persons after the meeting, Mr. Yadav alleged that the votes for the West Bengal Assembly election had been stolen by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Election Commission of India (EC), and other agencies. "We are in this battle with *Didi* [Mamata Banerjee] because we have to save democracy and the Constitution. If the right to vote is taken away, then what remains of democracy?" he said.

"*Didi* is not a person to be disappointed. She is a person of struggle. The BJP is patriarchal and feudal. That is why *Didi* has been targeted, because she is a woman," he said.

The meeting between the leaders of the two Opposition parties assumed political significance amid efforts by the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) bloc to recalibrate its strategies after the elections in several States.

The Trinamool chairperson, in her first media interaction after the loss, said she would work to strengthen the INDIA bloc.

After the meeting, the Trinamool, from its official X handle, shared photographs of the leaders to say, "Some bonds transcend politics and time, growing stronger through every season."

Following the Trinamool's loss in the recently concluded West Bengal election, several leaders of the INDIA bloc, including Sonia Gandhi, reached out to Ms. Banerjee. Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Arvind Kejriwal, and Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) chief and Chief Minister of Jharkhand Hemant Soren had campaigned for the Trinamool Congress.

Nitish's son among 32 Ministers inducted into new Bihar Cabinet

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Sharing stage: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nitish Kumar at the Bihar Cabinet swearing-in ceremony in Patna on Thursday. ANI

Thirty-two Ministers, including Nishant Kumar, son of former Chief Minister and Janata Dal(U) chief Nitish Kumar, took oath at Patna's historic Gandhi Maidan on Thursday as the Cabinet of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government in Bihar led by Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary was expanded.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Union Ministers Rajnath Singh and J.P. Nadda, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president Nitin Nabin, Mr. Nitish Kumar, and a host of other senior NDA leaders were present.

The sons of three erstwhile Bihar Chief Ministers are Ministers in the new Cabinet – apart from Mr. Nishant Kumar, Nitish Mishra, son of former Chief Minister Jagannath Mishra, and Santosh Kumar Suman, aka Santosh Manjhi, son of former Chief Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi were sworn-in.

The new Cabinet retains most faces from the previous Cabinet under Mr. Nitish Kumar, with some new faces, including Mr. Nishant Kumar, Shweta Gupta and Shailesh Kumar, aka Bulo Mandal from the JD(U); and Mithlesh Tiwari from the BJP. Senior Bihar BJP leader and Minister Mangal Pandey, along with two other party leaders, Surendra Mehta and Narayan Prasad, were dropped from the Cabinet amid speculation that Mr. Pandey, who had been a Minister for several terms, would soon be given a major role in the party's organisation in view of the Assembly election in other States.

Apart from Mr. Choudhary from the BJP, and the two Deputy Chief Ministers from the JD(U), Vijay Kumar Choudhary and Bijendra Prasad Yadav, the NDA Ministry has 15 members from the BJP, 13 from the JD (U), two from the Lok Janshakti Party-Ram Vilas (LJP-RV), and one each from the Hindustani Awam Morcha-Secular (HAM-S) and Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM).

The Chief Minister and two Deputy Chief Ministers took oath on April 15 at Lok Bhavan in the State capital, after Mr. Nitish Kumar took oath as a Rajya Sabha member on April 10.

The new Cabinet reflects a combination of castes, communities, and gender, with a focus on representation of Other Backward Classes, Extremely Backward Classes, the upper castes, Scheduled Castes, and women. Of the women Ministers, Lesi Singh, Shweta Gupta and Sheila Mandal are from the JD(U), while Shreyasi Singh and Rama Nishad are from the BJP.

The NDA Cabinet in Bihar now has 35 members.

The 243-member Legislative Assembly can have a maximum of 36 Ministers.

The highlight of the ceremony was the induction of Mr. Nishant Kumar, 44, who earlier expressed reluctance to be sworn in as a Deputy Chief Minister, and said he wanted to strengthen the party's organisation first. He set off on a "Sadbhav (goodwill) Yatra" on May 3 from Bagaha in West Champaran district, where party leaders were seen congratulating him on not joining the Cabinet as Mr. Choudhary's deputy.

The JD(U)'s working president Sanjay Kumar Jha, and Munger MP and Union Minister of Panchayati Raj Rajeev Ranjan Singh. alias Lalan Singh, both considered close confidants of Mr. Nitish Kumar, are said to have convinced Mr. Nishant Kumar to join the new Cabinet. Mr. Nishant Kumar was seen touching the feet of his father and Mr. Shah on the dais.

EC lifts model code in States where polls concluded

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Thursday announced the lifting of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) following the declaration of results of Assembly elections in Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and the Union Territory of Puducherry, and byelections in the Assembly constituencies in Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Nagaland, and Tripura.

The MCC would, however, remain operational in Falta of West Bengal, where a fresh poll has been ordered by the panel.

"Now that the results in respect of general election to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and U.T. of Puducherry, 2026 and by-elections in constituencies of Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Nagaland, and Tripura have been declared by the concerned Returning Officers... the Model Code of Conduct has ceased to be in operation with immediate effect," the EC said in a letter to the chief secretaries and Chief Electoral Officers of these States.

'Canada must act against anti-India extremist elements'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India on Thursday called upon Canada to act against "anti-India extremist elements" operating from Canadian soil against the backdrop of a Canadian intelligence report highlighting the national security threat posed by Khalistani elements.

The annual report for 2025 by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), released last week, said the involvement of Canada-based Khalistani extremists in "violent extremist activities" continued to pose a national security threat to Canada.

"India has repeatedly urged the Canadian government to take effective action against anti-India extremist elements operating from its soil. This includes addressing the issue of glorification of violence, threats against Indian leaders and diplomats, vandalism of places of worship,

Randhir Jaiswal

and attempts to promote secessionism through so-called 'referendums'," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at his weekly media briefing.

He said India had consistently spoken out about concerns regarding the use of Canadian territory as a "safe haven" by extremist elements. "The CSIS assessment acknowledges the presence of supporters of the Khalistan separatist movement and notes that Canada-based Khalistani extremist (CBKE) groups continue to pose a national security threat not only to India but also to Canada."

To a separate question on the CSIS report mentioning India, alongside China, Russia, Iran and Pakistan, among the "main perpetrators of foreign interference and espionage against Canada", Mr. Jaiswal said New Delhi had consistently rejected such "baseless imputations".

"India is a democracy that adheres to international norms and respects the sovereignty of other nations..."

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b) Associate Professors (Notification No. 4150, dt.30.4.2026)
c) Assistant Professors (Notification No. 4151, dt. 30.4.2026)

The filled application must be submitted online through the HIMS Portal **(https://hims.odisha.gov.in/)**, which will be available from **07.05.2026** onwards. Candidates are required to complete the application in all respects and upload all necessary supporting documents on or before **10.06.2026**.

In addition, a hard copy of the downloaded submitted application along with all relevant documents, must be sent only via Speed Post to the **Registrar, Rama Devi Women's University, Vidya Vihar, P.O.-Bhoi Nagar, Bhubaneswar -751022, District-Khorda, (Odisha)** so as to reach on or before **20.06.2026**.
For detailed information, please visit University website **https://rdwu.ac.in/**

By Order of the Vice Chancellor
Registrar

11001/37/2627
OIPR-11001/11031/1/26-27/0003

INBRIEF

HC issues notice to NDTV over Anil Ambani's complaint

The Delhi High Court issued notice to NDTV on Thursday over a defamation suit filed by businessman Anil Ambani over the channel's reportage concerning cases registered by the CBI and the Enforcement Directorate against companies linked to him. Counsel appearing for Mr. Ambani submitted that there had been 72 "targeted publications" against him over the past eight months. It was argued that despite Mr. Ambani being distinct from the entities under investigation, his name was repeatedly highlighted whenever action was initiated against any of the companies. The court has listed the matter for further hearing in July.

SC appoints former CJI as mediator in Kapur estate row

The Supreme Court on Thursday appointed former Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud as mediator to facilitate a settlement in the bitter inheritance dispute within the family of late businessman Sanjay Kapur, after the contesting factions agreed to attempt an amicable resolution. A Bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and Ujjal Bhuyan also advised members of the Kapur family against making public statements or posting on social media about the dispute for the "entertainment of others". "It is a family dispute. Let it be confined to the family only. It should not be a source of entertainment", the Bench observed.

Myanmar's Kuki ultras attack Nagas in Manipur

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

Myanmar-based Kuki extremists allegedly carried out a pre-dawn attack on Naga villages in the ethnic conflict-hit Manipur's Kamjong district, bordering Myanmar on Thursday.

According to an apex body of the Tangkhul Nagas, at least 100 heavily armed men attacked three villages located close to the international border, fired indiscriminately, and set 18 houses ablaze.

Two civilians sustained bullet injuries while several others were rounded up at gunpoint and tortured by the armed men, the Working Committee of the Tangkhul Naga Long (TNL) said in a statement.

The TNL alleged that the Kuki National Army-Burma, backed by the People's Defence Force (an anti-junta Myanmar armed group), carried out the coordinated attacks on the three villages.

"The civilian settlements were heavily bombed with drones, and rocket launchers, destroying several houses while some were razed to the ground," the TNL stated. "The incident occurred just about 200 metres from the 11 Assam Rifles company station."

Vehicles with fake plates used in Bengal shooting

The police recover car, two-wheeler used by assailants who shot dead aide of Suvendu; BJP leader alleges it is a targeted assassination and demands death penalty for the killers; SIT begins probe

Shrabana Chatterjee
KOLKATA

Vehicles bearing fake number plates have emerged as a key link in the killing of Chandranath Rath, personal assistant to Suvendu Adhikari, the outgoing Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal Assembly, late on Wednesday night, according to the West Bengal police.

A Special Investigation Team has been formed to probe the attack, and forensic experts have visited the scene of the crime in Madhyamgram in North 24 Parganas district.

Rath, 41, was in a white car when he was shot three times at point-blank range and sustained severe injuries. He was declared dead at a private hospital. A silver car used by the attackers was abandoned near the crime spot, and the culprits reportedly fled on two-wheelers. The police have seized the four-wheeler.

"The number plate of the car was tampered with because the original registration number is from Siliguri. This was a fake number plate. We have collected evidence from the spot. We are conducting further investigation," Director-General of Police Siddhi Nath Gupta said in the early hours of Thursday. One of the motorcycles used to flee the crime scene has also been recovered, and is also reported to have used a fake number plate.

A crowd gathers at the Barasat Medical College and Hospital, where an autopsy was done on Rath's body. SHRABANA CHATTERJEE

"If he was not my aide or I did not defeat [outgoing Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee] in Bhabanipur, maybe they would not have targeted Rath. His crime was being my personal assistant," Mr. Adhikari said, after visiting his aide's family at the Barasat Medical College and Hospital, where a post-mortem examination was conducted.

Alleging that this was a targeted attack by hired assassins who had recced the location for a week before carrying out the murder, the BJP leader called for the killers to face the death penalty.

Rath, fondly remembered as Chandra, was a pilot by profession, but had quit and held a private job for some time before he started working for Mr. Adhikari eight years ago. He had a residence in Madhyamgram's Doharia area which is where he was heading on Wednesday.

"I heard gunshots and ran to the place. The car had three people, two of them were bleeding, and one was crying for help. But they were still alive and breathing, so we asked them to rush to the hospital where he was declared dead," Sushanta Sarkar, a BJP worker and a resident of Doharia, told *The Hindu*.

BJP State president Samik Bhattacharya, who visited the State-run hospital again on Thursday morning, said that West Bengal had become a "heaven" for criminals thanks to the 15-year tenure of the Trinamool Congress government in the State.

'Revenge killing'

Rath's grieving mother told reporters that this was a revenge killing because her son worked for the BJP. "As a mother, I cannot seek death for anyone. But I will demand life imprisonment for the culprits," she said.

The Trinamool was quick to condemn the attack. "We demand the strongest possible action in this matter, including a court-monitored CBI investigation so that those responsible are identified and brought to justice without delay," the party said in a post on X.

Harassed by group of men during flight, alleges Moitra

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Trinamool Congress Lok Sabha member Mahua Moitra on Thursday alleged that she had faced harassment from a group of men on board an IndiGo flight while travelling to Delhi to attend a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence.

In a post on the social media platform X, the Trinamool MP said: "...Was on seat 1F on 6E 719. 4-6 men boarded in a group & leered at me & went to back of plane," Ms. Moitra wrote, sharing a video.

She alleged that after the flight landed and before the aircraft doors opened, the men heckled her and filmed the episode. "This is no 'citizen anger'. This is harassment & violates my safety in an aircraft. No way that these louts can get away with this," she said.

Ms. Moitra tagged IndiGo and Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu. "Find your crew report, name & shame them & put on no-fly list," read her post.

Ms. Moitra said she would send a complaint to the airline. There was no immediate response from IndiGo or the Ministry.

Govt. rolls out plan for free health checks for workers

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Labour Ministry on Thursday launched a scheme for free health check-ups for all workers above 40 years of age across the country every year.

Inaugurating the scheme, Union Minister of Labour Mansukh Mandaviya said it will be a major milestone in strengthening occupational healthcare and social security coverage for India's workforce.

He said the government is committed to strengthening social security coverage for all workers.

"The Employees State Insurance Corporation coverage has increased from around seven crore beneficiaries a decade ago to nearly 15 crore beneficiaries today," he said.

Webinar to explore trends, opportunities in visual media careers

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

VIT Chennai, in collaboration with *The Hindu Education Plus,* will organise a webinar on 'Visual media careers: where to start and how to succeed' as part of its career counselling series.

The visual industry offers diverse career opportunities with the rapid expansion of digital platforms, content creation and social media storytelling. The webinar aims to help students, aspiring creators, and young professionals with practical insights into emerging trends, career pathways, higher education opportunities, industry expectations and portfolio building.

The resource persons include Padmanabhan T., Associate Professor, School of Media Arts and Technology, VIT Chennai; C. Pichandy, Eminent Professor – Media and Communication, and former Head, Department of Communication, PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore; and Suresh Chandra Menon, actor, writer, and director.

The session, scheduled for 11.30 a.m. on May 10, will be moderated by journalist Soma Basu.

Those interested may register at newsth.live/THVITVE

Census enumerators not allowed into Gurugram's apartment buildings

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

In one of the first such instances, the Haryana administration has recommended the registration of a first information report (FIR) against two government school staffers for alleged negligence in Census-related work and for obstructing government duties. The Census Act allows for up to three years' imprisonment for such offences.

The criminal action comes even as Census enumerators, mostly government school teachers, complained of hostile behaviour and denial of entry by residents of high-rise apartment buildings and residents welfare associations (RWAs).

On Thursday, Gurugram Municipal Corporation Joint Commissioner and Census Nodal Officer Punit Kumar said that Census enumerators had been denied entry to several housing societies despite showing their identity cards. He said he has informed all RWAs and managements of housing societies that the government has deputed officers and enumerators for Census work and directed that they be allowed to carry out their work.

Mritunjay K. Narayan flags off mobile vans for Census 2027 at Janganana Bhawan, New Delhi.

Awareness campaigns

Registrar General of India Mritunjay Kumar Narayan flagged off six awareness vans on Thursday as part of the Census 2027 public outreach campaign in Delhi for the ongoing first phase, the Houselisting and Housing Census (HLO). These vans will travel across Delhi, carrying messages on Census participation, the self-enumeration facility, key features of Census 2027, and the importance of public cooperation with enumerators during field visits, a government statement said.

Delhi urges Dhaka to expedite verification of 2,800 illegal immigrants

Kallol Bhattacherjee
Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

The repatriation of Bangladeshi citizens who are illegally staying in India is a "core issue" in the Delhi-Dhaka relationship, the External Affairs Ministry said on Thursday.

Responding to comments from Bangladesh's new government about possible "push-ins" from the Indian side, Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal sought Dhaka's cooperation on expediting the repatriation of at least 2,862 identified illegal immigrants from Bangladesh.

"These comments must be seen in the context of the core issue of repatriation of illegal Bangladeshis from India. This requires cooperation from Bangladesh. Over 2,862 cases of nationality verification are pending with Bangladesh, some for over five years," Mr. Jaiswal said.

India expects Bangladesh to "expedite nationality verification" of these identified individuals so that "repatriation of illegal immigrants can take place in a smooth manner," he said. "Our policy is that all illegal foreign nationals staying in India must be repatriated as per our laws, procedure and established bilateral arrangements," Mr. Jaiswal added.

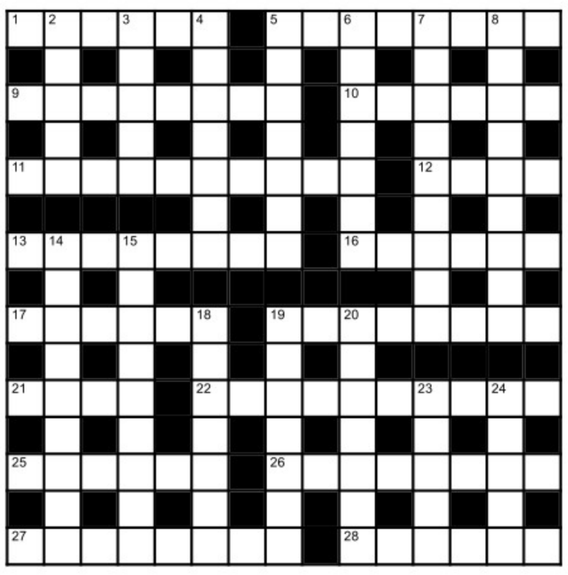
The Indian response came days after Bangladesh Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman and Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed said Dhaka would take "appropriate measures" if attempts are made to "push-in" individuals from India across the border.

TH CROSSWORD + 14788

(set by Afterdark)

Solve this puzzle online and access more puzzles at *https://thehindu.com/crosswords*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Remove new individual entering party (6)
5 Before church work, Louisiana doctor gets a small cut of meat (4,4)
9 In all likelihood, expert will get bowled cleverly (8)
10 Uncover study collecting funds frequently by extortion primarily (6)
11 Fine clothing for lawyer who's given to looting (10)
12 One's getting married at morning with religious leader (4)
13 Case for reconstructing casino after one crack in the front (8)
16 Residents of Borneo condemn a Tory, perhaps (6)
17 Greek essentially follows specialist in main course (6)
19 Dangerous tide came to devastate (8)
21 Son to sleep at break (4)
22 Innocent publican set free by rifleman essentially (10)
25 Claire cycled back to get pastry (6)
26 Say Man, settles to cover for a patterned fabric (8)
27 Mutinous mean lad obstructs rule to become a municipal officer (8)
28 Insect can have family (6)

Down

2 Say, a drier is lighter, foot's short (5)
3 A doctor's half dead at plant (5)
4 A composer in Hawaii gets a brazier (7)
5 State that lady won somehow (3,4)
6 Mohammad is only confining to US state capital (7)
7 Type of writing made of numeric characters (9)
8 Even woman in counter can be an anomaly? (3,3,3)
14 Can California arrest one falling short? Primarily is it accepted by law? (9)
15 A new parolee fled on a flier (9)
18 Witty remark on two animals found behind creek essentially (7)
19 Zero power used in a sport (7)
20 Metal collected outside college/institute/university (7)
23 Townhall eyewitness checked in backstreet (5)
24 Behold, setback is constant (5)

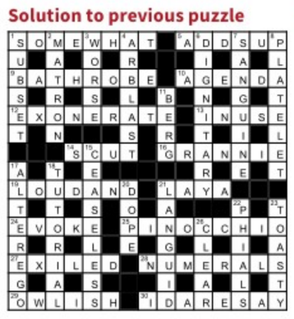
SUDOKU

	9	7	5			3		
				2	3	9	8	
		1					7	
					2		9	
1			8		4			3
	7		1					
	1					2		
	3	8	2	6				
		9			7	8	3	

No.SS6874 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle



Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	4	9	3	1	6	8	5	7
3	1	6	8	7	5	4	2	9
7	5	8	9	4	2	1	3	6
6	8	5	2	9	4	7	1	3
9	2	7	1	5	3	6	8	4
4	3	1	7	6	8	2	9	5
5	6	2	4	3	1	9	7	8
8	9	4	5	2	7	3	6	1
1	7	3	6	8	9	5	4	2

FAITH

Five sacred Shiva temples

Smt. Desa Mangaiyarkarasi elaborated in a discourse that the Pancha Bhootha Sthalams are five sacred Shiva temples in south India, each representing one of the five fundamental elements of nature – Earth, Water, Fire, Air, and Space. Together, they symbolise the deep connection between the divine and the natural world, guiding devotees toward spiritual understanding and liberation. The Earth element (*Prithvi*) is represented by the Ekambareswarar Temple in Kanchipuram, one of India's seven sacred sites of liberation. According to legend, Goddess Parvati performed penance here by creating a Shiva Lingam out of sand. When Lord Shiva tested her devotion by causing a flood, she embraced the Lingam to protect it.

The Water element (*Apu*) is embodied at the Jambukeswarar Temple in Thiruvanaikaval near Tiruchi, where the Lingam is constantly surrounded by water. The Fire element (*Agni*) is represented by the Annamalaiyar Temple in Thiruvannamalai. Here, Shiva manifested as an infinite pillar of fire, humbling Brahma and Vishnu. The Air element (*Vayu*) is associated with the Srikalahasteeswara Temple in Andhra Pradesh. The temple's name comes from a spider, a serpent, and an elephant who attained moksha here. A unique feature is the constantly flickering lamp in the sanctum, even in the absence of wind, symbolising the Vayu Lingam's presence. Finally, the Space element (*Akasa*) is represented by the Natarajar Temple in Chidambaram, where Lord Shiva performs the cosmic dance of bliss, the Ananda Tandava. Here, the divine is worshipped in a formless aspect known as the "Chidambara Rahasyam," symbolising boundless nature of space.

INBRIEF

CAG conducting audit of 101 cities to assess ease of living

India is conducting a special audit of 101 cities to assess ease of living from the citizen's perspective, Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) K. Sanjay Murthy said on Thursday. At the 5th BRICS Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) Leaders' Summit here, Mr. Murthy said the CAG of India is auditing multi-modal transport and first-mile, last-mile logistics, in partnership with institutions like the IIT and IIM, and the World Bank. India is hosting the three-day summit under the overarching theme 'Ease of Living with a Focus on Urban Mobility'. Convened during India's year of BRICS Chairmanship 2026 by the Office of the CAG, it brings together 42 delegates, including Heads of SAIs from BRICS member countries, to deliberate on audit themes of shared relevance, exchange best practices, and strengthen public financial oversight. PTI

Pronto raises $20 million as valuation doubles from March

On-demand home services start-up Pronto has raised an additional $20 million in its Series B round from venture capitalist Lachy Groom, doubling its valuation to $200 million in just two months. The platform, backed by General Catalyst, offers services such as laundry, kitchen prep and home cleaning from ₹125, with workers available within 15 minutes. It competes with Urban Company's Insta Help and Lightspeed-backed Snabbit. Pronto raised $25 million in March from Epiq Capital, Glade Brook Capital, General Catalyst and Bain Capital Ventures at a $100 million valuation. The firm will use much of the fresh capital to scale its workforce, CEO Anjali Sardana said, adding the platform is "very supply-constrained." "We went from 3,000 bookings a day at the beginning of December to now over 26,000 bookings a day...we've been scaling supply quite fast, but it has not kept up with demand," she said. REUTERS

'Compliance norms could derail EU FTA deal benefits'

Calling the agreement the 'mother of all deals', EU's Ambassador to India Hervé Delphin says it is, however, missing a chapter on investments; the deal could be implemented by early 2027, he says

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

While hailing the India-European Union (EU) Free Trade Agreement (FTA) as creating a joint market comprising one quarter of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the EU's ambassador to India Hervé Delphin also struck a note of caution over regulatory hurdles and "unfinished business" that could overshadow the benefits of the deal.

Speaking at an event organised by the Federation of European Business in India, Mr. Delphin also said that the FTA would likely be implemented in "early 2027", a timeline that sources in the Indian government also confirm.

Negotiations on the FTA were concluded in January this year.

"Both sides must ensure that the agreement is implemented smoothly and in good faith," he said. "For this to materialise, we need to align on a pro-FTA mindset and approach across our systems: customs procedures or conformity requirements should serve their purpose and not be used as trade barriers."

"If administrative procedures are too burdensome businesses may consider that cost of compliance outweighs the benefits of preferential tariffs, in which case the FTA potential would be lost," Mr. Delphin added. "That would be a missed opportunity."

Speaking a little more about the opportunity created by the FTA, the Ambassador said that the agreement would create a free trade zone covering nearly two billion people and a quarter of global GDP. "It will be the largest FTA ever signed by either side. For all these reasons it has been rightly billed the 'mother of all deals," he said.

However, he also pointed out some of the shortcomings in the deal.

"The FTA does not cover all relevant areas," he said. "We need to look at 'unfinished business' and 'beyond FTA'. Investment is the main case in point... There is regrettably no FTA chapter on investment liberalisation in non-services sectors, which would have given investors more assurance and predictability."

Conditions apply: Conformity requirements should serve the purpose and not be barriers, said Mr. Delphin. BY ARRANGEMENT

'Banks should brace for risks emerging from Mythos AI'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Risk management should be embedded in every bank's culture, said Mr. Nagaraju

Banks should make risk management a part of their core culture in order to face cybersecurity threats emerging from the newly introduced Mythos AI model, said Secretary in the Department of Financial Services M. Nagaraju.

"Risk management should be embedded in the culture of every bank," Mr. Nagaraju said while speaking at an IBA event here on Thursday.

The role of banks would become "more critical" as India continues to grow despite geopolitical challenges, he said.

"I hope the banking community is prepared well to face [any threat] in case Mythos is released publicly in the country...One successful cyberattack can cascade quickly across institutions and markets," Mr. Nagaraju said.

Speaking on India's exposure to the West Asia conflict, Mr. Nagaraju said, "Most of the areas have been impacted except for certain areas like educational institutions and the horticulture sector... some of these sectors were actually not impacted by the West Asia crisis."

"These sectors will not be included in the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme announced recently," the Secretary said.

"For the rest of the sectors, the scheme is available, and they can avail the benefit," he added.

Skyroot Aerospace raises $60 million, becomes unicorn

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Skyroot Aerospace, a private space tech company, announced its $60 million fund raise at a pre-money valuation of $1.1 billion, making it a unicorn.

The round was co-led by Sherpalo Ventures and GIC, a global institutional investor, with participation from other existing Skyroot investors including the founders of Greenko Group and Arkam Ventures. The founder of Sherpalo, Ram Shriram, a renowned tech investor and a board member of Alphabet Inc, will be joining Skyroot's board, the company said in a statement.

Walmart sourced goods worth over $40 bn from India since 2019: CEO

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Walmart Inc said it had sourced goods worth more than $40 billion from India since 2019.

"We've already sourced more than $40 billion in goods from India and are focused on strengthening entrepreneur and supplier capabilities, raising compliance and quality standards, and helping scale manufacturing so more Indian businesses are ready to export," said President and CEO John Furner. Speaking at Walmart Growth Summit in New Delhi on Thursday, Mr. Furner said this work was expanding economic opportunity and connecting innovative businesses in India with customers around the world.

John Furner

Walmart also announced that under its Vriddhi Supplier Development Programme, the company had trained over 1,15,000 MSMEs across the country since its launch in 2019, equipping them with digital capabilities, critical business skills, and access to new markets. The company has a mandate to train over 170,000 MSMEs by 2028, under the programme to strengthen the pipeline of MSMEs that have the ambition to export to new markets.

Coromandel Intl Q4 net profit at ₹115 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Agriculture solutions provider Coromandel International reported consolidated net profit for March quarter stood at ₹115 crore compared with ₹578 crore a year earlier.

The lower net profit came on a 19% rise in total income to ₹6,068 crore. Under exceptional items, the firm reported a ₹70.56 crore loss against ₹346.77 crore gain in the year-earlier period.

For fiscal ended March, net profit was 8% lower at ₹1,898 crore on a total income which was 30% higher at ₹31,827 crore.

S. Sankarasubramanian

₹2 dividend

The company declared a final dividend of ₹2 per equity share (face value of ₹1 each). Earlier, in February, it had paid an interim dividend of ₹9 per share.

"Coromandel's nutrient business delivered a steady performance in FY26, navigating a dynamic operating environment marked by supply disruptions, volatile raw material prices and sharp currency movements," MD and CEO S. Sankarasubramanian said in a press release.

Apple draws ₹100-cr. 'green' plan for India

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Apple's ₹100 crore investment would support development of over 150 MW renewable energy

Apple announced a slew of clean energy and environmental initiatives in India, including investments to expand renewable energy infrastructure, cut plastic pollution and foster green entrepreneurship in India.

These include a partnership with renewable energy developer CleanMax. Apple's initial investment of ₹100 crore would support the development of more than 150 megawatts of renewable energy capacity – enough to power an average of 1.50 lakh Indian households each year – with opportunity to expand in the coming years, said the iPhone maker.

Sarah Chandler, Apple's VP of environment and supply chain innovation, said, "We're proud to expand our efforts to invest in India's clean energy economy and protect the country's precious natural resources."

The new initiatives are expected to support Apple's ambitious goal to be carbon neutral across its entire footprint by 2030.

In order to reduce plastic pollution, Apple is working with WWF-India and supporting recovery-focused recycling and waste management initiatives that prioritise environmental and social safeguards, the firm said.

Kotak Bank gets RBI nod to buy 9.99% each in AUSFB, Federal Bank

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Kotak Mahindra Bank has received RBI approval to acquire up to 9.99% each in AU Small Finance Bank and Federal Bank.

In separate regulatory filings on Thursday, AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) and Federal Bank announced that they have received the approval letter from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on May 6.

Banking on banks: Federal Bank shares closed 1.36% up at ₹297.10 on the BSE on Thursday.

'Aggregate holding'

Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd (KMBL) (along with its subsidiaries, the funds/schemes managed by KMBL's subsidiaries, collectively referred to as 'Kotak Mahindra Group') has received the RBI nod to acquire 'aggregate holding' of up to 9.99% of the paid-up share capital or voting rights in AU SFB, AU Small Finance Bank said.

Similarly, Federal Bank said the Reserve Bank of India accorded approval to Kotak Mahindra Bank for acquiring 'aggregate holding' of up to 9.99% of the paid-up share capital or voting rights of the bank.

Shares surge on BSE

Shares of AU Small Finance Bank closed at ₹1,032.25, up 0.76% over the previous close on the BSE.

Federal Bank shares closed 1.36% up at ₹297.10 on the BSE. Kotak Mahindra Bank scrip closed 0.84% higher at ₹379.35.

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED
Notice Inviting Bid
Bid for Purchase of Silicon rubber hosed composite insulators (400 kV Suspension (120KN- 2074 Nos.) under BN-9018002603 (UBN: VPN2627GLOB00309) is invited from interested bidders up to 04:00 PM on 29.05.2026.
Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in)** of the state; and **http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl** departmental website.
Raj.Samwad/C/26/2235 RRVPN/TR-7547/2026 **Superintending Engineer (Contracts-I), Jaipur**

KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - TENDER NOTICE
O/o The Chief Engineer, (S.C.M) & C.S.C, Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Thiruvananthapuram.
GeM Bid No. GEM/2026/B/7355025, Dtd: 19.03.2026, PAC: Rs. 3,92,95,640/-, Last Date: 20.05.2026, 4.00 pm.
GeM Bid No. GEM/2026/B/7354688, Dtd: 19.03.2026, PAC: Rs. 1,40,21,100/-, Last Date: 20.05.2026, 4.00 pm.
E-Tender ID No. 2026_KSEB_848551_1, PAC: Rs. 2,46,88,100/-, Last Date: 20.05.2026, 03.00 pm.
E-Tender ID No. 2026_KSEB_849176_1, PAC: Rs. 8,97,42,000/-, Last Date: 27.05.2026, 03.00 pm.
E-Tender ID No. 2026_KSEB_848774_1, PAC: Rs. 3,79,37,520/-, Last Date: 25.05.2026, 05.00 pm.
E-Tender ID No. 2026_KSEB_848755_1, PAC: Rs. 2,45,64,650/-, Last Date: 03.06.2026, 04.30 pm.
E-Tender ID No. 2026_KSEB_849052_1, PAC: Rs. 28,26,88,200/-, Last Date: 12.06.2026, 04.00 pm.
Visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in and www.kseb.in
Ref : PR/MC1/E611 - E-tender/2026

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited
(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN: U04010KA2002SGC030438)
NOTIFICATION INVITING TENDER (Through KPP Portal)
BESCOM invites Tender for the following work: Tender Enquiry No: **BESCOM/2026-27/EL/WORK_INDENT1081.** Description of work: **"Automation of NON DAS Feeders in BMAZ area, BESCOM".** Availability of Bid document: **On or after 13.05.2026.** The detailed notification can be obtained from the Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.
Sd/- The General Manager (DAS), BICC-1, 17th Cross, 24th Main, HSR Layout 2nd Sector, Bengaluru-560102.
For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP

F.No.A.-2024/1/2024-E-IV
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources,
River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
******
VACANCY NOTICE
EXTENSION OF LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION
The vacancy notice published in the Employment News edition dated 21-27 March 2026 for filling the following four (04) posts in the Mahadayi PRAWAH on a deputation basis (including short-term contract) by this office is hereby revised. **The last date for submission of duly filled applications, which was 04.05.2026, has been further extended by 30 days from the date of publication of this vacancy notice in the Employment News.**

S. No.	Name of the post	Pay Scale	No. of Posts.
1.	Member (Environmental Issues)	Level-14 (Rs.144200-218200)	01
2.	Member (Hydrology)	Level-14 (Rs.144200- 218200)	01
3.	Member (Monitoring and Regulation)	Level-14 (Rs.144200- 218200)	01
4.	Director (Finance)	Level-13 (Rs.123100-215900)	01

2. All other terms and conditions of the previous vacancy notice shall remain unchanged. The interested candidates who have not yet applied may submit their applications as per the procedure mentioned in the detailed vacancy notice available on the official website: **jalshakti-dowr.gov.in.** and **dopt.gov.in.**
(Sameer Kumar Munda)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel: 011-23716252
Email: use4-mowr@nic.in

TELANGANA FOODS
(GOVT. OF TG ENTERPRISE) (An ISO 22000:2018 Certified Company)
ROAD No.14, IDA, NACHARAM, HYDERABAD 500076. T.G., INDIA.
Email: projects.tsfoods@gmail.com, Website: http://tfoods.telangana.gov.in
Ref. No. TF/Projects/AMEP2/1278/2026-27 **TENDER NOTIFICATION** **Date: 07/05/2026**
Telangana Foods invites E-Tender for Procurement of Additional Machineries like 01) Belt Conveyors, 02) Full Automatic Packaging Machines, 03) Pneumatic Conveying systems, 04) Elevator (Lift) and 05) Epoxy flooring to GAIN Plant for Technical specification go through Tender schedule. **Bids Submission Closing Date & Time: 15/05/2026 at 1.00 PM.** Note: Full Tender Notification & Tender Schedule with Terms & Conditions, Specifications, etc. can be downloaded from Website: **http://tender.eprocurement.gov.in** from **08/05/2026** at 2.00 P.M onwards. **Sd/-**
DIPR R.O. No. : 108-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/2026-27, Date: 07-05-2026. **Managing Director**

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING) NEW POWER HOUSE,
INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003 PHONE: (0291) 2742223, FAX: (0291) 2746539
SHORT TERM E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
Short Term E-Procurement Tender is invited for Hiring of Trolley Mounted Lifter having capacity 1 Ton and 2 Ton for to and fro transportation of Distribution Transformer etc on 24 hours basis under TN-2154 (UBN JVV2627SLOB00050).
Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at **energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl** and also at **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.**
Raj.Samwad/C/26/2238 **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)**
बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

कार्यालय मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी, टोंक
ई निविदा सूचना 01/2026-27
कार्यालय मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी, टोंक की ओर से मानव संसाधन की सेवाओ के उपापन हेतु सक्षम आपुर्तिकर्ताओं से दर संविदा करने हेतु ई-निविदा आंमत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र मय पूर्ण विवरण वेबसाईट http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in एवं http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।
NIB CODE:- MHS2627A0450
UBIN NO - MHS2627SLRC00603
DIPR/C/7820/2026
मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी, टोंक

Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR
No. : NIT/2026-27/577 - 98 Date : 06/05/2026
निविदा सूचना/2026-27
निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए केन्द्र / राज्य सरकार के अभिप्राविकी विभागों एवं उनके अधिकृत संगठनों में पंजीकृत एवं अनुभवी संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

कार्य का विवरण	कार्य की कुल अनुमानित लागत(रु.)	निविदा सूचना संख्या
Renewal / Strengthening of Road at Various Places in Rajasthan.		
UBN: (1) RRC2627WLOB00085 (2) RRC2627WLOB00087 (3) RRC2627WLOB00090	8557.36 Lakh	ई-058/26-27
UBN: (1) RRC2627WLOB00093 (2) RRC2627WLOB00091 (3) RRC2627WLOB00086	10429.15 Lakh	ई-059/26-27
UBN: (1) RRC2627WLOB00094 (2) RRC2627WLOB00095 (3) RRC2627WLOB00097	18471.27 Lakh	अल्पकालीन ई-060/26-27
UBN: (1) RRC2627WLOB00098 (2) RRC2627WLOB00088 (3) RRC2627WLOB00092 (4) RRC2627WLOB00081	4581.42 Lakh	ई-061/26-27
UBN: (1)RRC2627WLOB00104	1854.50 Lakh	ई-064/26-27

निविदा से सम्बन्धित प्रपत्र में निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि, डाउनलोड करने व खोलने की तारीख सहित सम्पूर्ण विवरण एवं संशोधन वेबसाईट **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.nic.in** तथा **http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in/rsrdc** पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है.
महाप्रबंधक

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)
SRM e-Tender No. T-2635/MSETCL/CO/Projects/Pre Tender (RFx No. 6000001513)
MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below. "Balanced work of Construction 400kV D/C line from LILO on 400kV Waluj-Bhusawal line Circuit-II to 400kV Thaptitanda Substation (Route Length- 22.43km) under Ch. Sambhajinagar Zone."
Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**
The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is from 05.05.2026.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL

WASHINGTON

Lebanon, Israel to hold new talks in Washington on May 14-15: U.S.

AP

Lebanon and Israel will hold a new round of peace talks on May 14-15 in Washington, a U.S. official said on Thursday, despite a new Israeli strike in the heart of Beirut. Next week's talks will be the third between Israel and Lebanon, which had not spoken directly for decades and have no diplomatic relations. AFP

TEHRAN

Iran's President Pezeshkian says he met Supreme Leader Khamenei

REUTERS

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said on Thursday he had met with the country's Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei, who has not been seen in public since his appointment in early March. "What struck me most was the vision and the humble and sincere approach of the Supreme Leader," the President said. AFP

ROME

Rubio meets Pope in a bid to ease tensions over Trump remarks

AP

The top U.S. diplomat, Marco Rubio, went to the Vatican on Thursday for talks with the first U.S. Pope, Leo XIV, against the backdrop of sharp tensions between the White House and the Vatican. The U.S. secretary of state's visit comes after Donald Trump's extraordinary criticism of Pope over his anti-war stance. AFP

YANGON

Myanmar junta claims recapture of trade artery towards China

AFP

Myanmar's military claimed on Thursday to have recaptured a key northern transport corridor towards China after a 15-month battle, touting a counter-blow to rebels in the civil war. The military said it crushed "terrorist insurgent groups" along a route linking the central city of Mandalay to the northern hub of Myitkyina. AFP

Labour challenged from all sides in U.K. elections

Over 5,000 seats in 136 councils in England were up for grabs, with Labour defending 2,566 seats and the Conservatives 1,364; PM Starmer has struggled to keep the centrist and left flank of his party together over immigration and welfare policies; he has also suffered reputational damage over the appointment of Peter Mandelson, the U.K.'s former envoy to the U.S. who had close links to Epstein

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer and his Labour party were faced with the prospect of serious political damage as voting got under way in council elections in England and Assembly elections in Scotland and Wales on Thursday.

More than 5,000 seats in 136 councils in England were up for grabs, with Labour defending 2,566 seats and the Conservatives, 1,364 seats. The last elections for these seats were in 2022, when the nativist Reform UK had won just two seats. Last year, Reform had won 667 seats - the largest number – that were up for elections.

Mr. Starmer has struggled to keep the centrist and left flank of his party together over policies around attempts to tighten immigration and welfare spending. He has also suffered reputational damage – including in his own party – over the appointment of Peter Mandelson, the U.K.'s former envoy to the U.S. who had close links to the convicted paedophile and financier, Jeffrey Epstein. Labour is faced with the prospect of losing votes to both Reform on the right and the Greens on the left. Some, such as the University of Oxford's Stephen Fischer, project Labour to lose as much as 1,900 seats, or three quarters of its current tally.

"Those outcomes are so bad that the specifics don't matter," said Tim Bale, a political scientist of Queen Mary University of London, when asked how bad Labour's performance would need to be for it to end Mr. Starmer's premiership.

"And in any case the decision as to whether or not to oust Starmer depends less on how bad the results are ... more on whether they think anyone capable of challenging the PM can really improve the government's ratings," Mr. Bale told *The Hindu*.

Labour is fighting the Greens in inner London boroughs and the Greens and Liberal Democrats in the Northern metros such as Leeds and Sheffield. It is fighting Reform UK in other northern metros like Sunderland and Barnsley.

The Conservatives, who suffered big losses in the 2024 general election, could lose 1,010 seats according to Mr. Fisher. They are defending their seats in rural counties and the outer boroughs of London.

"I did not vote this year," said Sam Arora, a 39-year old British Indian businessman, from Wembley, a London area that is home to many South Asians.

Keir Starmer and his wife Victoria Starmer leave after casting their votes at a polling station in central London on Thursday. AFP

"I find politics in this country has really sort of taken a turn," he added. Mr. Arora, who runs a business engaged in international trade used to vote for the Conservatives but feels the party is "becoming a bit too far right".

In both Scotland and Wales, Labour was projected to come in third – trailing behind Reform.

In Scotland, all 129 places in the Scottish Assembly at Holyrood were contested, with voters animated by issues around the cost of living, health and social care and immigration, as per a Savanta poll for the BBC. (The online poll surveyed 2,136 people over 16 in Scotland, between January 29 and February 6).

The Scottish National Party (SNP), which won the election in 2021, with 64 seats - i.e., just one seat short of a majority - ran a campaign around Scottish independence, promising a referendum on secession from the U.K., as early as 2028. A 2022 Supreme Court ruling had given the U.K. Parliament the sole power to call such a referendum, the last of which was in 2014.

First Minister John Swinney had said in recent weeks that the SNP getting a majority in Holyrood would be a solid argument for Westminster to give Holyrood the power to call a referendum.

Reforming NHS

However, a YouGov poll released on Wednesday, projected the SNP to win 62 seats, with Reform coming in second with 19 seats and Scottish Labour following closely behind in third place with 17 seats. The Greens were projected to get 16 seats, twice as many as they won in 2021.

Reforming the National Health Service (NHS), Britain's healthcare system, has been at the top of the list for Scottish Labour's leader, Anas Sarwar, a former dentist. Mr. Sarwar had urged voters to "save the NHS" which was "not safe" with the SNP and its leader.

In Wales, the Senedd (Assembly) is also being expanded from a strength of 60 members to 96, with every seat being contested. The same three issues – cost of living, healthcare and immigration ranked on top of Welsh voters concerns in another Savanta poll of 2086 Welsh adults.

Labour has run the devolved (partly autonomous) government in Wales ever since the Senedd was formed in 1999. Polls published at the end of April and in early May have generally projected centre-left nationalist party Plaid Cymru coming in first, closely followed by Reform and Labour coming in third.

Plaid leader Rhun ap Iowerwerth, launching his manifesto in April had called a vote for Reform "a proxy vote for the politics of Trump", referring to the U.S. President. The party appears to have tamped down its approach to an independence referendum, saying instead in its manifesto that it would prepare a report on whether Wales should be independent from the U.K.

Support for Welsh Labour had been declining before Labour formed the U.K. government in 2024, according to Jac Larner, a professor of political behaviour at Cardiff University. But Mr. Starmer has not helped, he said. "In essence, Labour are paying a double cost of governing here – paying the price for an unpopular Welsh Government and an unpopular UK Government," Mr. Larner said.

Iran denies attacking ship as Trump warns of renewed bombing

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

Iran denied on Thursday attacking a South Korean cargo ship in the Strait of Hormuz this week, as U.S. President Donald Trump said a deal to end the war was "very possible" but warned Washington would resume bombing if talks failed.

Tehran's embassy in Seoul said it "firmly rejects and categorically denies" allegations that its armed forces were behind a blast aboard the Panama-flagged *HMM Namu*, which caught fire on Monday while transiting the strategic waterway with 24 crew members on board.

Mr. Trump later claimed Iran had "taken some shots" at the vessel and urged South Korea to join U.S.-led efforts to restore shipping through the strait.

Meanwhile, a shipping data company reported on Thursday that Iran has created a government agency to vet and tax vessels seeking passage through the crucial Strait of Hormuz as Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baqaei said that the United States' proposal remained "under review".

Those who remain

A general view of a beach known as 'the airport', a departure point used by migrants trying to reach Europe through the Atlantic route, in Mbour, Senegal. Over 4,000 migrants died or went missing on the Atlantic route from Senegal to the Canary Islands in 2025. AFP

China sentences two ex-Defence Ministers to death with reprieve

Associated Press
BEIJING

Wei Fenghe

A Chinese military court gave suspended death sentences on Thursday to two former Defence Ministers who were accused of bribery, according to the official *Xinhua News Agency*.

The court said Wei Fenghe was guilty of accepting bribes and sentenced to death with a two-year reprieve. It said Li Shangfu was guilty of accepting and offering bribes, and handed him the same sentence.

Suspended death sentences are often commuted to life in prison in China. The sentences are the latest in Chinese President Xi Jinping's campaign of purging senior officials.

Mr. Xi started an anti-corruption drive more than a decade ago and his drive has continued unabated.

Israeli strike kills top Hamas official's son in Gaza, say a hospital and Hamas

Agence France-Presse
GAZA CITY

A Gaza hospital and Hamas on Thursday said the son of the Palestinian Islamist movement's chief negotiator had died from wounds sustained in an Israeli strike a day earlier.

Azzam Khalil al-Hayya, 23, the son of top Hamas official Khalil al-Hayya, "was martyred after succumbing to wounds sustained in an Israeli air strike targeting him yesterday," Gaza City's Al-Shifa hospital said in a statement.

The city's Al-Ahli hospital and a security source said on Wednesday that a strike on the Al-Daraj neighbourhood of Gaza City in the evening killed one person and wounded 10 others, including Azzam Khalil al-Hayya.

Women and children watch from a window the funeral of Azzam Khalil al-Hayya, in Gaza City on Thursday. AFP

Azzam Khalil al-Hayya is the fourth of Khalil al-Hayya's seven sons to be killed in Israeli attacks, according to a Hamas source. Two of those were killed before the Gaza war erupted in October 2023.

The third, Hammam, was killed in an Israeli strike targeting Hamas leaders in Doha in September, which killed six persons.

Khalil al-Hayya is the head of Hamas in Gaza despite living in exile in Qatar. He is currently vying for the leadership of the movement. He survived the strike on Doha.

In a statement, Hamas said that the killing of Azzam Khalil al-Hayya "came within the framework of attempts to exert pressure on the resistance leadership and its negotiating delegation".

'Ukraine launched major drone attack after Moscow shunned ceasefire offer'

Associated Press
KYIV

Russian air defences shot down 347 Ukrainian drones overnight, Russia's Defence Ministry said on Thursday, in what appeared to be a major attack after Moscow spurned Kyiv's ceasefire and tension mounted over safety at Russia's upcoming Victory Day celebrations.

Incoming drones were destroyed over 20 Russian regions, including Moscow, according to the Defence Ministry, in Ukraine's second-biggest aerial attack since Russia's all-out invasion more than four years ago. The largest was last March when it launched 389 drones.

Special service vehicles parked near Red Square decorated for the Victory Day celebrations in Moscow, Russia, on Thursday. AP

Dozens more Ukrainian drones were launched during daylight hours on Thursday, the Ministry said, including some heading again toward Moscow. Nearly 100 flights in and out of the Russian capital's three main airports – Sheremetyevo, Domodedovo and Vnukovo – were delayed or cancelled by midday, the *Moskva* news agency reported.

The attacks came ahead of Russia's most important secular holiday, Victory Day, which marks the anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany in the Second World War. Russian authorities have declared a unilateral ceasefire in Ukraine for Friday and Saturday.

Ukraine had responded to that with its own suspension of hostilities from midnight Tuesday. But Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Moscow disregarded the goodwill gesture and launched fresh attacks.

STAY ONE STEP AHEAD

Adding variety to your bowling arsenal is a must, reckons Krunal

K. MURALI KUMAR

Today, power-hitting is constantly evolving. The new-age batters coming in have an insane ability to clear the ropes with ease. As a bowler, I have realised that you have to add variety to your bowling arsenal. You must stay one step ahead of the batter. That is how bouncers and yorkers came into the process — Krunal Pandya.

CLINICAL SHOW

Cummins pleased with SRH's bowling effort against PBKS

NAGARA GOPAL

Punjab (Kings) are a really good side, they were number one coming into this. I thought the batters to get up to what we did was sensational. Then to close it out, no matter what the score is, bowling second against a side like that is always tough, but I thought we were quite clinical — SRH skipper Pat Cummins.

AREA OF CONCERN

Skipper Shreyas rues dropped catches after loss to Sunrisers

NAGARA GOPAL

It (target) was a bit too much because we dropped catches at the start. The wicket kept getting slower. They (Sunrisers Hyderabad) showed us how to win. I feel we got a fairytale start in the tournament. If we are going to continue with the same form, that's not going to help us — Punjab Kings captain Shreyas Iyer.

EXEMPTION

Australian players to stay back in IPL despite Pakistan ODI series

NAGARA GOPAL

Cricket Australia confirmed that its players will be allowed to fulfil their IPL 2026 commitments, granting them exemption from the three-match ODI series against Pakistan beginning May 30. The IPL league phase will end on May 24, and the final is scheduled for May 31. The Australians are scheduled to arrive in Islamabad on May 23.

Marsh, Prince excel as Super Giants end losing run

The opener slams 111 off just 56 balls as the home side ends up with 209 for thee in a game reduced to 19 overs a side; the pacer claims three as RCB falls short in pursuit of a revised target of 213

IPL-19

Aditya Padinjat
LUCKNOW

Lucknow Super Giants kept its IPL 2026 playoff hopes alive with a thrilling nine-run win over Royal Challengers Bengaluru at the Ekana Stadium here on Thursday.

The victory was set up by a brutal century from Mitchell Marsh, who scored his second IPL ton off just 49 deliveries, as well as Prince Yadav's inspired spell.

Rain breaks

After LSG was put in, play was interrupted by the first of three showers just nine balls in. That window was enough for Marsh (111, 56b, 9x4, 9x6) to announce himself with a towering six over long-off against Josh Hazlewood, and he lost no rhythm thereafter.

Cashing in

The Ekana Stadium has been bowler-friendly but Thursday's track was more placid. The powerful Australian cashed in, taking toll of the fuller lengths and width provided by the RCB bowlers to particularly devastating effect through the offside.

After Marsh's pyrotechnics had come to a close, Nicholas Pooran and Rishabh Pant brought the innings to a close on 209 for three in 19 overs with a flurry of boundaries.

RCB, chasing a revised target of 213, started poorly, thanks to Prince, who went from zero to hero. Four deliveries into the opening over, he fumbled a regulation take at deep third, but recovered spectacularly to hold onto a swirling miscue off Jacob Bethell's bat next ball.

Taking the new ball from the other end, he then ended Virat Kohli's stay after just two balls with a peach that pitched outside off before nipping in to take off-stump.

RCB captain Rajat Patidar (61, 31b, 3x4, 6x6) and Devdutt Padikkal mounted a resistance of 95, but the golden arm of Prince broke through again, inducing Padikkal to chip a return catch before bouncing out Jitesh in the same over.

The double strike led Pant to gamble on introducing Shahbaz Ahmed, and it paid dividends as Patidar holed out to long-off.

Tim David, Krunal Pandya, and Romario Shepherd were able to get the game down to 20 runs from the final over.

Digvesh does the job

But Digvesh Rathi held his nerve to get LSG over the line for its first home win of the season. It also ended a six-match losing streak.

Star turn: Marsh put the RCB bowlers to the sword en route his second IPL ton before Prince struck vital blows, including the big wicket of Kohli. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

SCOREBOARD

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS
Mitchell Marsh c Bethell b Hazlewood 111 *(56b, 9x4, 9x6)*, Arshin Kulkarni c Patidar b Krunal 17 *(24b, 1x4)*, Nicholas Pooran c Krunal b Rasikh 38 *(23b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Rishabh Pant (not out) 32 *(10b, 4x4, 2x6)*, Aiden Markram (not out) 1 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-5, w-5): 10; Total (for three wkts. in 19 overs): 209.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-95 (Arshin, 9.2 overs), 2-165 (Marsh, 16.1), 3-194 (Pooran, 18.2).

RCB BOWLING
Bhuvneshwar 4-0-34-0, Hazlewood 4-0-49-1, Krunal 4-0-31-1, Rasikh 4-0-53-1, Suyash 2-0-21-0, Shepherd 1-0-16-0.

ROYAL CHALLENGERS (Target 213)
Jacob Bethell c Prince b Shami 4 *(5b, 1x4)*, Virat Kohli b Prince 0 *(2b)*, Devdutt Padikkal c & b Prince 34 *(25b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Rajat Patidar c Markram b Shahbaz 61 *(31b, 3x4, 6x6)*, Jitesh Sharma c Pant b Prince 1 *(3b)*, Tim David **(Impact Player for Suyash)** c Digvesh b Shahbaz 40 *(17b, 4x4, 3x6)*, Krunal Pandya (not out) 28 *(16b, 2x4, 2x6)*, Romario Shepherd (not out) 23 *(15b, 3x4, 1x6)*; Extras (lb-4, w-8): 12; Total (for six wkts. in 19 overs): 203.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-9 (Bethell, 0.5), 2-9 (Kohli, 1.2), 3-104 (Padikkal, 10.1), 4-106 (Jitesh, 10.5), 5-112 (Patidar, 11.3), 6-158 (David, 15.3).

SUPER GIANTS BOWLING
Shami 4-0-33-1, Prince 4-0-33-3, Mayank **(Impact Player for Himmat)** 4-0-50-0, Digvesh 4-0-50-0, Shahbaz 3-0-33-2.

Toss: Royal Challengers.
Player-of-the-Match: Marsh.
Super Giants won by nine runs (DLS method).

Next assignment

LSG: May 10 vs. CSK Chennai, 3.30 p.m.

RCB: May 10 vs. MI Raipur, 7.30 p.m.

Capitals and Knight Riders in must-win territory

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

In theory, Delhi Capitals and Kolkata Knight Riders are still in the race to qualify for the playoffs of IPL-19. But for mathematical possibilities to translate into concrete reality, a flawless streak will have to be strung together until the very end of the league phase. With the two beleaguered units facing off at the Arun Jaitley Stadium, only one of them will be in control of its destiny at the conclusion of Friday's battle.

This is nearly do-or-die territory, with DC languishing at seventh spot with eight points in 10 matches and KKR, which has played a game fewer, at eighth with seven points. The Knights have already won three games at a stretch, but their abominable run at the start of the competition is to blame for their current predicament.

Much of how the contest pans out, of course, will depend on the nature of the surface. While the turf at the Kotla has lent itself to high-scoring affairs in recent years, the 2026 edition has required a more nuanced reading. The pitches have exhibited divergent characteristics, resulting in DC being just as unsure as the opposition of what to expect from the 22-yard strip.

For Capitals, K.L. Rahul will have to shoulder the responsibility at this critical stage. On a difficult deck against Chennai Super Kings, the 34-year-old let himself down with an injudicious stroke off Akeal Hosein. With the ball, the scrutiny will be on left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav, whose seven wickets at an economy of 10.36 are well below his usual standards. Axar Patel, too, has to step up as skipper and all-rounder.

In the KKR camp, Rinku Singh and Sunil Narine have been a cut above the rest. For the three-time champion to stay afloat, a few more will have to find their A-game.

Seeking inspiration: Axar will hope Rizvi steps up to the plate as DC battles to keep its season alive. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Today's match

DELHI CAPITALS vs. KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS

Delhi, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: **34**
DC **15** | KKR **19**

PREVIOUS MEETING
KKR won by **14 runs**, 2025

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 & JIOHOTSTAR

Just waiting for my opportunity: Miller ahead of milestone

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

In the midst of his 15th season in the IPL, David Miller is one game shy of 150 appearances. It may take the South African batter some time to reach that mark, given that the 36-year-old hasn't featured in Delhi Capitals' last two matches.

With the team management moving towards two overseas quicks, Miller has had to make way.

"Not being able to play is frustrating as a player. You always want to play every game, but such is the structure of the IPL with only four overseas players. The combination becomes really important for the team," Miller acknowledged on the eve of the clash against Kolkata Knight Riders at the Arun Jaitley Stadium.

"I've been around, this is not my first IPL. To give feedback to the rest of the squad, always be positive and give what I can towards the team remain really important for me. And then just waiting for my opportunity to come again. If it does come, I just want to remain ready and prepare really well," the southpaw stated.

For Miller as well as the franchise, the 19th edition has been a mixed bag.

"When we've batted, we've lost wickets in clusters. It puts us into positions where we've got to rebuild. Then, there are moments where we've dropped a couple of catches that potentially could have changed the outcome.

"We've spoken that it's all of us together. Win or lose, we're together. There's no pointing any fingers at all with what we've done," Miller said.

Miller... one short of 150 games. FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Nitish — the all-round glue holding SRH together

Anirudh Velamuri
HYDERABAD

What binds Sunrisers Hyderabad's explosive batting engine and a bowling attack that has stubbornly held its own on unforgiving surfaces? Nitish Kumar.

Perhaps the only player who truly straddles both worlds. His absence against Kolkata Knight Riders showed how vital he is to SRH's balance.

So when the 22-year-old returned from illness against Punjab Kings, the relief within the camp was palpable.

SRH's top-order has understandably grabbed the spotlight. Abhishek Sharma, Travis Head, Ishan Kishan and Heinrich Klaasen have piled up a combined 1,739 runs. On the bowling front, Eshan Malinga leads the chart with 12 wickets, followed by Sakib Hussain (10).

And then there is Nitish – quietly occupying the space between those departments, yet central to both. His 222 runs have come at 166.91, while his seven wickets have arrived at an economy of 10.39 in a tournament where bowlers have been sent on leather hunts.

Against Kings, he once again underlined his value. A 13-ball 29 provided SRH added momentum before he returned to dismiss the seemingly unstoppable Prabhsimran Singh. He ended the night with impressive figures of 2-0-11-1.

For all the debate around the Impact Player rule sounding the death knell for genuine all-rounders, Nitish has become a compelling counter-argument. SRH's title ambitions will rest on several pillars, but few may prove as crucial as him.

Nitish is the thread that quietly binds together a side built on explosive batting and relentless intent.

In a team filled with stars, Nitish has emerged as the balance it cannot afford to lose.

Key player: Nitish has been central to SRH's fortunes. NAGARA GOPAL

Points table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Sunrisers Hyderabad	11	7	4	0	14	0.737
Punjab Kings	10	6	3	1	13	0.571
Royal Challengers	10	6	4	0	12	1.234
Rajasthan Royals	10	6	4	0	12	0.510
Gujarat Titans	10	6	4	0	12	-0.147
Chennai Super Kings	10	5	5	0	10	0.151
Delhi Capitals	10	4	6	0	8	-0.949
Kolkata Knight Riders	9	3	5	1	7	-0.539
Mumbai Indians	10	3	7	0	6	-0.649
Lucknow Super Giants	10	3	7	0	6	-0.934

INBRIEF

Sinner demands 'respect' from the Grand Slams

Jannik Sinner called on Thursday for Grand Slam tournaments to show tennis players respect in a row over prize money, but stopped short of calling for a boycott of the sport's major events. "It's more about respect. Because I think we give much more than we are getting back. It's not only for the top players; it's for all of us players," said the World No.1.

Top seeds enter singles last eight at Tumakuru Open

All the top seeds moved into the singles quarterfinals after a gripping day of action at the Tumakuru Open ITF W35 on Thursday.

The results (round-of-16): Justina Mikulskyte (Ltu) bt Zuzanna Kolonus 0-6, 6-3, 6-1; Zuzanna Pawlikowska (Pol) bt Sonal Patil 6-2, 6-4; Vaidehee Chaudhari bt Madhurima Sawant 6-2, 6-2; Zeel Desai bt Jennifer Luikham 6-2, 6-3; Ksenia Laskutova bt Sandeepti Singh Rao 6-4, 6-2; Ekaterina Yashina bt Kashish Bhatia 4-0, retd.; Arina Arifullina bt Pooja Ingale 6-4, 6-2; Elina Nepliy bt Laxmisiri Dandu 6-1, 6-1
Doubles (quarterfinals): Sravya Shivani Chilakalapudi & Zeel bt Laxmisiri Dandu & Chevika Reddy Sama 6-4, 6-3; Akanksha Dileep Nitture & Michika Ozeki (Jpn) bt Diva Bhatia & Luikham 0-6, 7-5, [10-3]; Vaidehee & Zuzanna Pawlikowska bt Soha Sadiq & Madhurima Sawant 7-5, 6-1; Ksenia Laskutova & Elina Nepliy bt Aishwarya Jadhav & Aakruti Narayan Sonkusare 6-2, 6-2.

Former India u-19 player Amanpreet dies at 36

Former India u-19 and Punjab medium-pacer Amanpreet Singh Gill died aged 36 in Chandigarh on Wednesday. Amanpreetfeatured in six First Class matches for Punjab, claiming 11 wickets. He was part of Kings XI Punjab in the inaugural IPL season, and later served as member of Punjab State side's senior selection committee.

LIVE TELECAST

Bangladesh vs Pakistan: 1st Test, day 1, FanCode, 9.30 a.m.
ISL: Sony Sports Ten 2 & FanCode, 5 p.m,
IFL: Sony Sports Ten 5 & LIV, 6.30 p.m.
IPL: Star Sports Ten 1 & JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday).

Unstoppable: Dembele, right, caps off a sweeping counter-attack with the opening goal. AP

Dembele's early strike helps PSG edge Bayern

The holder largely succeeds in subduing the German giant's attacking threat, despite Kane's stoppage-time equaliser; the host loses cool over some first-half refereeing decisions

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
MUNICH

Holder Paris Saint-Germain set up a Champions League final against Arsenal after a 1-1 second-leg draw at Bayern Munich secured a 6-5 aggregate victory on Wednesday.

PSG exploded on the counter less than three minutes in and Ballon d'Or winner Ousmane Dembele put Luis Enrique's visitors ahead on the night and two goals up in the tie.

PSG largely succeeded in subduing Bayern's attacking threat, despite Harry Kane's stoppage-time goal.

On its return to Munich's Allianz Arena, the scene of its greatest triumph against Inter Milan in last year's final, PSG once again emphasised its excellence in a competition it coveted without success for so long.

The French giant will be the favourites to lift the trophy for a second successive season when it faces Premier League leader Arsenal on May 30 in Budapest.

The French giant is hoping to become only the second back-to-back winners since 1990, after Real Madrid.

Bayern was angered by some first-half refereeing decisions but was largely toothless in attack.

The six-time European champions has still not reached the final since beating PSG in the 2020 showpiece in Lisbon.

Both sides were playing their 52nd match of the season in all competitions – not even counting last summer's Club World Cup – but only the hosts looked weary.

So dangerous in the first leg, Bayern was surprisingly stodgy in attack, with Michael Olise in particular having an off night.

In the midst of a record-breaking season, Bayern's fourth defeat in all competitions will sting for a club set to wonder what might have been.

Both teams only made one change to their starting XIs compared to last week's spectacle in Paris.

Only PSG's was forced, with Fabian Ruiz in for the injured Achraf Hakimi.

Ruiz, starting his first European match since January, set Khvicha Kvaratskhelia down the left flank with an excellent through ball.

The Georgian latched onto the pass, blazed past his marker before cutting back for the perfectly placed Dembele to slam home.

The result (semifinal, second leg):
Bayern Munich 1 (Kane 90+4) drew with PSG 1 (Dembele 3) (PSG wins 6-5 on aggregate).

PSG's bull run

Enrique's side continues its march to the top with another stellar show

- 1 Paris Saint-Germain is the first French club to make successive Champions League (CL) finals. It is also the first Ligue 1 team to advance to three European Cup/CL title deciders
- 1 PSG is the first reigning champion to reach the summit clash since Real Madrid in 2017-18
- 3 The French powerhouse has entered the final for the third time since 2019-20
- 7 Kvaratskhelia has now scored or assisted in seven consecutive CL knockout fixtures
- 7 Bayern striker Kane's equaliser helped him extend his scoring streak in the elite club competition to seven matches
- 44 PSG's tally of goals during this CL campaign (16 matches), one short of the record set by Barcelona (1999-2000)

Glory beckons: Arteta is eyeing a first-ever CL title for Arsenal while Enrique hopes to guide PSG to a second straight triumph. AP, AFP

Master tacticians Arteta and Enrique lift Arsenal, PSG

Natalia Hannah Rice
CHENNAI

Mikel Arteta and Luis Enrique, two Spanish tacticians who have been on the rise, have set up a mouth-watering Champions League final contest. It's another reward for their grind over the years.

When Arteta arrived at Arsenal in 2019, the club looked directionless. Its football lacked structure, recruitment appeared reactive, and performances fluctuated wildly. His rival Enrique, in 2023, inherited a different problem at Paris Saint-Germain (PSG), a side that was stacked with individual brilliance but was often accused of lacking collective identity.

Years later, both managers have reshaped their teams with distinct philosophies.

Arsenal has become one of Europe's most tactically disciplined sides. Built on aggressive pressing, positional rotations and controlled possession, Arsenal plays with a clarity that mirrors its head coach's personality. Players are recruited not only for their talent, but because they are tactically compatible.

Enrique's task at PSG has been equally tough. For years, the French club's project revolved around superstar forwards and individual efforts. But Enrique has attempted to move away from that dependence, prioritising intensity, balance and collective belief. Since the 55-year-old's takeover, PSG has been attacking quicker and defending with greater organisation than in the seasons that preceded.

What could make the CL title decider compelling is not merely the quality on the pitch but the ideological imprint both bosses have left on their clubs so far.

In Arteta and Enrique, Arsenal and PSG have found managers willing to demand patience, discipline and long-term commitment. The final, therefore, is also likely to be a clash of identities. It could be a reflection of the coaches who have spent years reshaping institutions until the football finally began to resemble their vision.

Their previous meeting ended in a 3-1 semifinal aggregate victory for PSG in 2024-25. Will Enrique outclass Arteta once again, or will the latter script history with Arsenal?

Win over Sindarov and draw against So keeps Gukesh in the hunt

CHESS

Press Trust of India
WARSAW

D. Gukesh made quite an impact, signalling that his preparations for the World championship are on track by first defeating his title challenger, Javokhir Sindarov, in the fifth round and then holding American Grandmaster Wesley So to a draw in the Super Rapid and Blitz event on the Grand Chess Tour.

After defeating Uzbekistan's Sindarov, Gukesh played out a quick draw with So to move to six points with three rounds still to go in the Rapid event. The win against Sindarov earned the Indian two points, while the draw fetched him one.

Gukesh. FLICKR/GRANDCHESSTOUR

So is the joint leader on nine points alongside fellow American Hans Niemann.

The duo is followed by Vladimir Fedoseev, who is a point behind, while Gukesh is tied on six points with Fabiano Caruana, Jan-Krzysztof Duda and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave as he looks to climb further up the standings in the remaining rounds.

The results (round six):
Wesley So (USA, 9) drew with D. Gukesh (6); Alireza Firouzja (Fra, 4) lost to Hans Moke Niemann (USA, 9).
Fabiano Caruana (USA, 6) drew with Jan Krzysztof Duda (Pol, 6); Vladimir Fedoseev (Slo, 8) bt Radoslav Wojtaszek (Pol, 3).
Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra, 6) bt Javokhir Sindarov (Uzb, 4).

Hockey India announces u-18 men's, women's squad for Australia series

Press Trust of India
BHOPAL

Hockey India on Thursday announced the 24-member Indian under-18 men's and women's squads for the upcoming home series against Australia from May 15 to 20.

The four-match series, to be played at SAI Bhopal, is a critical part of the teams' preparations for the men's and women's u-18 Asia Cup to be held at Kakamigahara, Japan, from May 29 to June 6.

The squad members were selected after a week of rigorous evaluation during the national coaching camp, where the initial group of 42 players was narrowed down based on match fitness and tactical adaptability.

Hard at work: The men's under-18 squad at a training session in Bhopal. X@HOCKEYINDIA

Forward Ketan Kushwaha has been named captain of the men's team, while the women's side will be led by Sweety Kujur.

The squads: Men:
Goalkeepers: Sawan Kumar, Ayush Rajak, Vishal Bada.
Defenders: Ansh Bahutra, Ashish Tani Purti, Arman Soreng, Deepakprakash Toppo, Karan Gautam, Karan Dhanuk.
Midfielders: Premchand Soy, Rahul Yadav, Varinder Singh, Romit Pal, Arjandeep Singh, Gursimranpreet Singh, Arshdip Singh, Avi Manikpuri.
Forwards: Akash Deep, Ketan Kushwaha (Capt.), Shahrukh Ali, Gazee Khan, Prahalad Rajbhar, Siddharth Ben, Jaysan Kandulna.
Women: Goalkeepers: Mahak Parihar, Harry, Khili Kumari.
Defenders: Sugan Sanga, Nilam Topno, Rubina Baxla, Kiran Ekka, Divya Yadav, Sulochani.
Midfielders: Shruti Kumari, Diya, Harshita, Rashmeen Kaur, Laminganbi Akoijam, Nancy Saroha, Tongbram Lanchenbi Devi, Sneha Davde.
Forwards: Nousheen Naz, Sweety Kujur (Capt.), Priyanka Minz, Sandeepa Kumari, Nammi Geetashree, Princess Priya Ekka, Pushpa Manjhi.

Williamson named in NZ squad

Agence France-Presse
WELLINGTON

Kane Williamson will continue his pursuit of 10,000 Test runs after being named on Thursday in New Zealand's squad to play Ireland (from May 27) and England (three-Test series starting June 4).

New Zealand squad:
Tom Latham (Capt.), Tom Blundell, Kristian Clarke (Ireland only), Devon Conway, Zak Foulkes, Dean Foxcroft, Matt Henry, Kyle Jamieson, Daryl Mitchell, Henry Nicholls, Will O'Rourke, Glenn Phillips, Michael Rae (IRE only), Rachin Ravindra, Ben Sears, Nathan Smith, Blair Tickner, Kane Williamson, and Will Young (IRE only).

Indian women stun Korea, in recurve final

ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

The Indian recurve women's team, consisting of Olympians Ankita Bhakat and Deepika Kumari and rookie Kumkum Mohod, toppled a formidable Korean side on its way to enter the final and assure the country of a medal at the Archery World Cup Stage-2 in Shanghai on Thursday.

The Indian trio defeated Uzbekistan 6-2 and Vietnam 5-4 before toppling top-ranked Korea, including Tokyo Olympics and multiple World championships team gold medallist Kang Chaeyoung and relatively less experienced Oh Yejin and Lee Yunji, 5-1 in the semifinals.

India will meet host China in the final on Sunday.

The results: Recurve: Team: Men: India (B. Dhiraj, Tarundeep Rai, Yashdeep Bhoge) got a bye (first round), lost to Bangladesh 2-6 (second round).
Women: India (Ankita Bhakat, Kumkum Mohod, Deepika Kumari) bt Uzbekistan 6-2 (first round), bt Vietnam 5-4 (shoot-off: 28-25) (quarterfinal), bt Korea 5-1 (semifinal). **Mixed:** India (Ankita Bhakat, B. Dhiraj) got a bye (first round), lost to Brazil 4-5 (shoot-off: 19-19*, shot closer to centre) (second round).
Compound: Mixed team: India (Aditi Swami, Ojas Deotale) got a bye (first round), bt Hong Kong China 159-150 (second round), lost to USA 156-157 (quarterfinal).

Terrific trio: Ankita, Deepika and Kumkum rose to the occasion. WORLD ARCHERY

Vinesh's return from retirement doubtful

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

Vinesh Phogat's return to competitive wrestling at the upcoming Senior Open Ranking tournament in Nandininagar, Uttar Pradesh, looks doubtful as the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) has raised doubts over her eligibility on the basis of a United World Wrestling (UWW) regulation on retired athletes.

The 31-year-old, who retired following her disqualification from the 2024 Paris Olympics and gave birth to a baby boy in July last, reversed her decision on December 12, 2025.

Vinesh. FILE PHOTO

The two-time Worlds medallist Vinesh got a notice from the International Testing Agency (ITA) for missing an out-of-competition dope test on December 18, 2025.

"Any retired wrestler who wishes to return to competition shall announce it to UWW at least six months before and be available for doping tests during this period (article 5.6.2 of the Anti-doping Rules 2021)," says a UWW rule.

It's learnt that Vinesh has been tested after her whereabouts failure in December.

"We've written to UWW asking about her eligibility," WFI president Sanjay Singh told *The Hindu*.

Trials on May 30, 31
Meanwhile, 'in accordance with' its selection policy for the Asian Games released in February, the WFI will hold the trials on May 30 and 31 in Delhi (women) and Lucknow (men) respectively.

Medal winners of the 2025 National championships and the 2026 Federation Cup and the National under-20 championships are eligible to participate in the event.

The pre-mentioned National under-23 championships, which is yet to be held, and the Open Ranking tournament fall outside the ambit of trials.

Need to act fast
"Since the deadline to submit Asiad entries to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) is June 4, we must act fast," said a WFI official.